Bengaluru Tuesday, September 16, 2025 Pages 14 Vol 78 No 257 ₹7

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DH

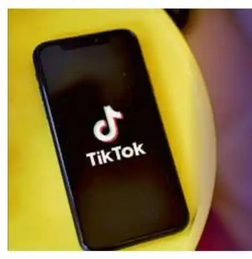
DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

Teen drama 'Adolescence' wins 8 Emmys

Owen Cooper, 15, becomes youngest male actor to win an Emmy

Page 10



World

US, China reach framework deal on TikTok ownership

P.10

State

Actor Upendra, wife's phones 'hacked' by cybercriminals

P.3

Business

WPI inflation at 4-month high in August P.12

Nation

Nitish vows not to switch sides again P.8

Quickly

Dasara invite to Banu: HC dismisses PILs

The HC on Monday dismissed the pleas against the government's decision to invite Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate Mysuru Dasara, saying the petitioners failed to prove any constitutional violation.
Details on Page 5

Guv returns buffer zones Bill to govt

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has returned to the government the contentious Bill that reduces buffer zones around lakes, seeking clarity on the possible "adverse effect" of the proposed law.
Details on Page 3

SC Collegium okays 3 judges for K'taka HC

The Supreme Court Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India BR Gavai on Monday approved a proposal for appointing three judicial officers as judges of the Karnataka High Court. They are Geetha Kadaba Bharatharaja Setty, Muralidhara Pai Borkatte and Tyagaraja Narayan Inavally.

BMW crash: Accused sent to judicial custody

A Delhi court on Monday sent a woman, who allegedly drove the BMW car involved in the crash that killed a senior finance ministry official in Dhaula Kuan, to two days of judicial custody. Thirty-eight-year-old Gaganpreet Kaur was allegedly driving the car when it hit the motorcycle of Navjot Singh (52).
Details on Page 9

SC refuses to stay entire Waqf Amendment Act

Key provisions, including clause on 5-yr practice of Islam, put on hold

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to stay the entire Waqf Amendment Act 2025, but put on hold some of the key provisions till the validity of the law is finally decided.

Emphasising that there is a presumption of constitutionality in law passed by Parliament, a bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih, however, stayed clause (r) of Section 3 of the amended Waqf Act, which mandated five-year practice of Islam to create waqf.

The court said the provision would stand stayed until the rules are framed by the state government for providing a mechanism for determining the question as to whether a person has been practising Islam for at least five years or not.

The court also said the Central Waqf Council and State Waqf Board should not consist of more than four and three non-Muslims as members respectively.

It also directed that as far as possible, an effort should be made to appoint the chief executive officer of the Board, who is the ex officio secretary, from amongst the Muslim community.

In its 128-page judgment on the plea for interim stay, the CJI for the bench, wrote, "In the totality of the circumstances, we do not find that any case is made out to stay the provisions of the entire statute. The prayer for stay of the impugned Act is, therefore, rejected. However, while doing so, in order to protect the interest of all the parties and balance the equities during pendency of this batch of matters, some provisions are stayed."

The court also directed that unless the issue with regard to title of the waqf property in terms of Section 3C of the amended Waqf Act is not finally decided in the proceedings under Section 83 of the amended Waqf Act by the tribunal and subject to orders by the high court, neither the waqfs will be dispossessed of the property nor the entry in the revenue record and records of the board shall be affected.
▸ Waqf, Page 5

RULING HIGHLIGHTS

- Waqfs will not be dispossessed of properties nor will entries in official records be changed until title dispute is finally decided
- During such proceedings, no third-party rights can be created for those properties
- SC says that in Central Waqf Council's 22 members, a maximum of four can be non-Muslim members
- In 11-member state waqf boards, a maximum of three non-Muslims can be members
- Court says that as far as possible, the CEO should be appointed from the Muslim community

Oppn: Slap on govt face

The Opposition on Monday called the Supreme Court ordering a stay on the key provisions of the "blatantly problematic" new waqf law, as a "tight slap on the face" of the Modi government and said it could have avoided the embarrassment if the ruling BJP had heeded to their advice.
Details on Page 8

Muslim clerics praise ruling

Prominent Muslim clerics hailed the Supreme Court's ruling on the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025 where stayed some key provisions of the Act though not the entire law. AIMPLB member Maulana Khalid Rashid Firangimahali said Muslims had sought stay on the entire law.
Details on Page 8

Will scrap Bihar SIR if any illegality is found, SC tells EC

Refuses to modify order to include Aadhaar as proof

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday said it can't stop the Election Commission from conducting the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls across the country but categorically said that if any illegality is found in the exercise being conducted in poll-bound Bihar, then the entire process would be set aside.

"Please take it from us. If we find any illegality in the methodology adopted by ECI at any stage of SIR in Bihar, the entire exercise will be set aside," a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said.

During a hearing on the pleas challenging the SIR, the bench said the court presumed the EC, being a constitutional authority, was following the law during the SIR in Bihar.

Senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the EC, urged the court to allow the poll panel to complete the entire SIR process, and after its completion, the court would be able to assess the exercise better.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for NGO Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), contended that the EC was moving ahead with conducting SIR in other states.

The bench, however, asked: "How can the court stop the Election Commission of India from conducting a similar exercise in other parts of the country?"

It has set October 7 for final arguments in the case.

The court, while refusing to offer any "piecemeal opinion" on the exercise, said "our judgment in Bihar SIR will be applicable for pan-India SIR".

Advocate Vrinda Grover, appearing for some of the petitioners, contended the EC's manual is inconsistent with the statute regarding the last date for filing nominations and the date of freezing the electoral roll ahead of the poll.

"Why should I, as a citizen residing in Bihar, be denied the opportunity to vote in this election because an illegal methodology has been adopted?" she asked.

To this, the bench said if any methodology is illegal, the court will strike it down.
▸ SIR, Page 5

CLEARING THE AIR

- SC says it can't stop nationwide SIR
- In case of problem with EC methodology, court will interfere
- Set Oct 7 for final hearings
- Final verdict on Bihar SIR will be applicable pan-India
- Order allowing Aadhaar for SIR interim

KIA sets ball rolling for T2 expansion, eyes 2028 completion

MUTHI-UR-RAHMAN SIDDIQUI
BENGALURU, DHNS

The much-awaited expansion of Kempegowda International Airport's Terminal 2 is set to begin by early next year.

The project will add 2.78 lakh square metres to Terminal 2 and 40 apron stands (the area where aircraft are parked and maintained), and create a 28,000-square metre walkway providing direct connectivity between T1 and T2.

The project is expected to be completed by 2028 and will take the airport's annual passenger capacity to well over 85 million. In 2024-25, it handled 41.88 million passengers, with the number likely to increase in the current fiscal. On average, it handles 1.15 lakh passengers per day, including 70,000 through T1 and 45,000 through T2.

T1 has already exceeded its designed annual passenger capacity of 30 million. Phase 1 of T2, which became operational in 2023 and has received widespread praise for its aesthetics, is spread over 2.55 lakh square metres and handles over 16 million passengers annually. It is expected to reach its maximum capacity of 25 million in the next few years.

On Monday, Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) invited expressions of interest for an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for Phase 2 of T2 to accommodate additional passengers and flights.
▸ KIA, Page 5

Valmiki scam: CBI finds more irregularities

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday said that it has unearthed more illegal diversion of government funds in Karnataka when investigating the alleged scam in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited (KMVSTDCL).
Details on Page 4

HDK land case: Action on hold

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Monday directed for keeping in abeyance for two weeks the actions initiated by the tahsildar in an inquiry against Union minister H D Kumaraswamy in a case of alleged land grant.
Details on Page 3

US delegation in India for trade talks

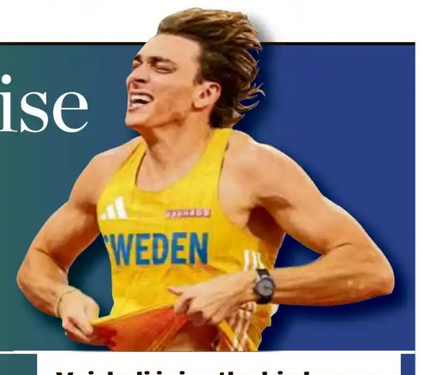
NEW DELHI, DHNS: A delegation of United States officials reached New Delhi on Monday to restart the negotiations for a trade agreement with India, after the recent exchange of positive vibes between President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi brought the ties back from the brink.

The delegation, led by Brendan Lynch, the Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia, landed in Delhi. Lynch and other US officials will meet Indian counterparts on Tuesday to add momentum to the stalled negotiations for the trade agreement.
Details on Page 10

Champions Rise

Duplantis raises the bar

Armand 'Mondo' Duplantis set a new world record of 6.30 metres in pole vault while successfully defending his world title in Tokyo on Monday. The Swede had already wrapped up the competition with a winning vault of 6.15m before raising the bar another 15cm.



Central end 11-year wait!

Central Zone went through some anxious moments before beating South Zone by six wickets to clinch the Duleep Trophy after a gap of 11 years in Bengaluru on Monday. Chasing a modest target of 65, Central Zone's top-order struggled on a fifth day track at the BCCI CoE grounds, but the required number of runs were too less to provide a twist in the tale.

Vaishali joins the big league

India's chess stocks kept rising as Grandmaster R Vaishali won the FIDE Women's Grand Swiss for the second time in a row and made it to the women's Candidates tournament after a hard-fought draw against former world champion Zhongyi Tan of China in the 11th and final round in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on Monday.

P.13, 14

After handshake snub, livid Pak demand match referee Pycroft's removal

BENGALURU, DHNS: Even as the Indian players' refusal to shake hands with Pakistani cricketers after their Sunday's Asia Cup clash snowballed into a major controversy on Monday, a snubbed Pakistan Cricket Board demanded the removal of match referee Andy Pycroft.

Andy Pycroft

The PCB is holding the Zimbabwean, who officiated the match, responsible for the fiasco that has stirred fresh tensions between the two arch-rivals.

India's captain Suryakumar Yadav and Pakistan's captain Salman Agha. AP/PTI

PCB has claimed that Pycroft "asked (Pakistan) captain Salman Ali Agha, at the time of the toss, not to shake hands with his Indian counterpart".

Pakistan team manager Naved Cheema has also filed a complaint with the Asian Cricket Council alleging that it was on Pycroft's insistence that team sheets weren't exchanged between the two skippers as is the norm.

While the issue rages, India are now faced with a tough question: Would they receive the trophy from PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi, who is also the head of ACC, in case they win the title?

Surya had justified his team's stand after the win on Sunday, equating the gesture to expressing solidarity with the families of Pahalgam attack. The PCB has now sought the intervention from ICC, which is headed by Jay Shah.

OC RULE RELAXED

33k B'luru property owners may get power, water connections

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

With the state government doing away with the Occupancy Certificate (OC) mandate for buildings built on a plot size of 1,200 sq ft or less, at least 33,000 families in Bengaluru will now be able to get power and water connections.

An OC is a mandatory certification to prove that the building is safe to move in.

Bescom, which is sitting on a huge pile of applications, said it will now start to process these requests that had been stalled following a Supreme Court order mandating an OC for power and water supply connections.

According to Bescom sources, close to 33,000 applications seeking power supply may get the eagerly awaited connection.

"New connections are also a big source of revenue for Bescom. However, owing to the Supreme Court order, we had to keep the applications on hold. Now, since the state government has made changes, we will start providing connections to these properties," a senior Bescom official told *DH*.

Similarly, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) will also start processing close to 10,000 applications falling in the said category.

"We had received close to 24,000 applications that had no OC. Out of this, close to 10,000 might have been in a plot less than 1,200 sq ft. We will start providing them water supply," a senior BWSSB official said.

However, another 60,000 applications will remain pending with Bescom and close to 14,000 applications will be in a similar status with the BWSSB since they do not fall in the said category. While many home owners are now relieved, some others urged the government to provide concessions for bigger plots as well.

- Approx number of applications with Bescom: **1 lakh**
- Number of applications that can be processed under new rule: **Close to 33,000**
- Approx number of applications with BWSSB: **24,000**
- Number of applications that can be processed: **Close to 10,000**

Hope for others

Sources in the Urban Development Department told DH that other property owners may also get some relief as the government is exploring opportunities to provide them power and water connections. "We have been asked to consult the law department and explore solutions to solve this problem. We are in consultation with other departments," a senior official from the UDD told DH.

Next-Gen
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MORE THAN ₹40,000 SAVINGS ON TRACTORS
UP TO ₹1.25 LAKH SAVINGS ON COMBINE HARVESTER THRESHERS
UP TO ₹10,000 SAVINGS ON POWER TILLERS
UP TO ₹25,000 SAVINGS ON MULTI-CROP THRESHERS
भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF BHARAT
CBC 15502/13/0015/2526

Man molests woman aiding injured dog

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Amruthahalli police have arrested a private firm employee for allegedly molesting a woman twice while she was tending to an injured stray dog.

The incident occurred on September 8 between 12 am and 12.30 am but came to light after the victim lodged a complaint on September 12, following legal counsel. An FIR under BNS Section 74 (assault or use of criminal force to a woman with intent to outrage her modesty) was registered the same day.

The arrested suspect has been identified as Manjunath, 30, an employee of a private firm in the city.

According to the FIR, the 29-year-old victim, a web designer, was on her way to Bharati Nagar with her friend in his car when they saw an injured dog near Jakkur Double Road.

The woman alleged that when she was crossing the road carrying the dog, the suspect, who was on a motorcycle, molested her. When she screamed, he fled. She stated that after leaving the dog across the road, she went to a nearby petrol station to wash her hands. On her return, the suspect appeared again and molested her, the FIR noted. This time, the woman and her friend chased him.

The suspect, who was speeding, fell off his vehicle and sustained injuries. He was shifted to a hospital. "The suspect was returning drunk from a party before committing the offence. He has been arrested, and notice has been served to him for further proceedings," a senior police officer told *DH*.

New buses from Jalahalli Cross

BENGALURU, DHNS: The BMTC on Monday introduced the following non-AC bus services:

CHAKRA-2: Jalahalli Cross to Jalahalli Cross via Madanayakanahalli, Ravuthanahalli Cross, Vaddarahalli, Kodabagere Cross, Sunkadakatte and Goraguntepalya.

CHAKRA-2A: Jalahalli Cross to Jalahalli Cross via Goraguntepalya, Sunkadakatte, Kodabagere Cross, Vaddarahalli, Ravuthanahalli Cross, Madanayakanahalli.

BJP cries foul as state govt promises Rs 1,100 cr for Bengaluru roads

MLAs argue Rs 25 crore per constituency not sufficient

The Greater Bengaluru Authority is currently white-topping 134 km of roads at a cost of Rs 1,600 crore. DH FILE PHOTO

BENGALURU, DHNS

Last week, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar announced that the state government would allocate Rs 1,100 crore for the development of roads in Bengaluru, which have become increasingly non-motorable due to potholes. He also said that a sum of Rs 50 crore each would be provided to 14 constituencies, while the remaining constituencies would get Rs 25 crore each.

Calling it a case of double standards, BJP legislators were not happy with the announcement, stating that the government was trying to favour Congress-ruled constituencies with higher allocations.

Expressing disappointment, Jayanagar MLA C K Ramamurthy said he had requested a grant of Rs 100 crore for road repairs given the poor condition of most roads. "In Jayanagar, most roads are wide, stretching between 40 feet and 80 feet in some cases. There have been instances of road accidents. Providing just Rs 25 crore is not sufficient," he noted.

Other BJP legislators pointed out that, apart from the ongoing white-topping works, the government had not sanctioned any major grants for Bengaluru in the past two and a half years.

C V Raman Nagar MLA S Raghu argued that allocations should be made after assessing road conditions across all constituencies, regardless of the ruling party. "The government's allocations have been inconsistent and this impacts the entire city," he said, adding that C V Raman Nagar alone generates about Rs 500 crore in property tax.

Currently, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) is undertaking white-topping of approximately 134 km of roads at a total cost of Rs 1,600 crore, half of which is funded by the state.

Ahead of the last Assembly elections, when Basavaraj Bommai was Chief Minister, the BJP government had allocated around Rs 6,000 crore for Bengaluru, most of which was spent on road asphalting. Potholes have since reappeared on many of those roads. V K Srivatsa, a resident of Hemmigepura, suggested that the government must change its approach to fund allocation for better results. "The government should stop releasing funds through MLAs and route them directly to the newly carved corporations. Commissioners have been appointed to improve civic services, but without adequate grants, how can they deliver?" he asked. He also pointed out that the Greater Bengaluru Authority is not directly accountable to the public.

A senior official from the Urban Development Department (UDD) said the government has not yet approved the allocations. "There is a proposal to provide grants for Bengaluru, but no order has been issued so far," he said.

UDD halts BBMP engineers' promotions amid bribery allegations

Sources say oral complaint has reached CM, DyCM

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Urban Development Department (UDD) has applied brakes on a controversial proposal to promote 23 Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs) from the now-dissolved Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), following allegations that bribes — including cash and gold — were demanded to fast-track their promotions.

The promotion in three years, as against the standard five years of experience in the role, means that the engineers would not only jump to the higher salary scale but also gain the power to float tenders and clear bills.

Last month, BBMP's Special Commissioner (Administration) wrote to the UDD recommending the promotions.

The letter, dated August 20, argued that a number of Executive Engineer (EE) posts were lying vacant after the creation of Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Ltd (B-SMILE) and Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd (BSWML). It also cited three past instances when AEEs were promoted after completing just three years in the role.

A senior UDD official confirmed that the department has returned the proposal. The official said the number of EE vacancies did not justify such a large round of promotions, and the AEEs in question had served only the minimum required tenure.

Reliable sources informed *DH* that the proposal was shelved after allegations surfaced that bribes were demanded in return for clearing the file. It is believed that not just cash, but gold was also sought. The oral complaint had reportedly reached the offices of the chief minister and deputy chief minister as well, according to sources.

Auto driver booked for molesting 19-yr-old student

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Puttenahalli police have registered an FIR against an autorickshaw driver for inappropriately touching a 19-year-old female student, officials said on Monday.

According to the FIR, on September 8, the survivor from JP Nagar had booked the autorickshaw on the Rapido ride-hailing app at 4.28 pm from her college to her house.

The autorickshaw, bearing registration number KA01 AQ9254, was driven by the suspect, Hanumanthappa H Talwar. The survivor told the police that she was dropped off at 5.15 pm. Hanumanthappa allegedly told her that she looked like an actress and, on the pretext of helping her bring down her bag, touched her inappropriately. He also forced her to remain in the autorickshaw.

"He first touched my forehead, saying he was checking if I had a fever. Despite my telling him not to touch, he touched me inappropriately," the survivor alleged.

The survivor pushed him aside and ran to her house. She informed her mother and approached the police.

The case was registered under Section 75(2) (sexual harassment) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). "It is currently under investigation," a senior police officer told *DH*.

Narrow escape for 60 passengers as fire guts BMTC bus

BENGALURU, DHNS

About 60 passengers narrowly escaped before a fire destroyed a BMTC bus at the HAL bus stop in eastern Bengaluru early Monday morning, officials said.

The bus (KA 57 F 4568) — operating between Majestic and Kadugodi on the KBS–1K/3 night service route — caught fire in the engine compartment around 5.10 am, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) said in a statement.

The bus driver, Jayachandra, and the conductor, Chowdappa, showed presence of mind by ensuring that 50–60 passengers were safely evacuated and sent onward by another bus. There was no injury or loss of life, it added.

A screengrab shows the BMTC bus on fire.

The bus crew informed the Fire and Emergency Services. Fire personnel arrived at the spot and extinguished the flames, but the bus was completely gutted. The bus belonged to Depot 51 (Sadaramangala), the BMTC said.

A technical team led by the Chief Mechanical Engineer has launched an inquiry to ascertain the exact cause of the incident, it added.

Stating that passenger safety is of the highest priority, the BMTC said all necessary technical measures would be taken to ensure such incidents do not recur.

Electrician ends life by leaping from apartment terrace

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 26-year-old electrician jumped to his death from an apartment complex on the outskirts of Bengaluru on Sunday, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Lokesh Pawan Krishna from Ulsoor. At the time of the incident, Krishna was at his sister's apartment on the 24th floor in Chikkabidarakallu at Madanayakanahalli.

He jumped from the terrace at around 3 am.

A senior police officer told *DH* that the deceased had left behind a note stating that his actions were due to health issues.

His body was found by the apartment security guard. The police were subsequently informed, and the body was shifted to a hospital for further procedures. The Madanayakanahalli police have registered an Unnatural Death Report (UDR).

Need help?
If you are experiencing thoughts of self-harm and suicide, please reach out to the 14416 TeleMANAS helpline for support.

Prostitution racket busted at salon, two women arrested

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Thalaghattapura police have busted a prostitution racket operating out of the Radiant Professional Unisex Salon and Spa located near Vajrahalli Metro Station on Kanakapura Main Road. Two women — the spa's owner and manager — were arrested following a raid on Sunday evening.

According to a complaint filed by a PSI of the Thalaghattapura police station, a tip-off led police to the establishment at Building No. 2008 in the BCCHS Layout. The complaint alleged that the spa was a front for a prostitution ring where women and girls were being exploited for illicit profit. The accused, Indirani (owner) and Divyashri (manager), are alleged to have engaged in prostitution. The complaint stated that the duo lured men with offers of "hand massages" and "happy endings," and facilitated prostitution through various payment methods, including cash and online transfers via Paytm and Google Pay.

The police report confirmed that money was received and women were dispatched to rooms within the spa for these activities. The raid was conducted on Sunday, and a case has been registered against the two women.

Bike-borne men snatch gold chains from women

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Girinagar police are searching for two bike-borne assailants who allegedly attacked two women with machetes to snatch their gold chains. The incident occurred on Sunday at Eshwari Nagar, the police said.

According to the police, the two victims — both homemakers — were returning home after attending an orchestra. On their way back, the assailants, wearing helmets and riding a motorcycle, confronted them and demanded that they hand over the gold ornaments.

When they refused, the suspects swung a machete at them and fled after snatching chains weighing about 45 grams and 10 grams, respectively. One of the women suffered minor injuries to her fingers, the police said. A case has been registered, and an investigation is ongoing. The police are also scouring CCTV feeds.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Social Justice Awareness Forum: Round table discussion on 'The plan to push Christians among Hindu castes' Venue: Hotel Capitol, Raj Bhavan Road, 10.30 am.

Kondavaru Yaru: Public dialogue on the topic surrounding rape and murder in Dharmastala, Participants: R. Pratibha, R. Sunandamma, Mallige Sirimane, Akkai Padmashali, K S Vimala, Venue: Gandhi Bhavan, Kumarakrupa Road, 11.30 am.

Karnataka Nataka Academy: Concluding ceremony of the mythological song singing camp: Guests: K V Nagarajamurthy, B C Nagendra Kumar, Venue: Bapuji Auditorium, Government Arts College, 12.30 pm.

Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering: Symposium on Engineers Day: Participants: G.S. Srinivas Reddy, Ashwath MU, Venue: Kumaraswamy Layout, 4.30 pm.

B M Shri Pratisthan: Founder's Day and Award Presentation: Award Recipient: Srinivas G. Kappanna, Venue: N R Colony, 5 pm.

Karnataka Chitrakala Parishad: Book release: 'Tupakiya Pishumatu' by Vinod KL, Guests: Dharani Devi Malagatti, S. Mahender, Gangadhara B., About the book: Prakash Raj, Venue: Kumarakrupa Road, 6 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	29.0°C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	64%
Sunset (Sep 16)	6:21 pm
Sunrise (Sep 17)	6:09 am
Moonrise	-:-- am
Moonset	1:29 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

e-Tender Notice No. : M-41-L-Wash-HTE-64, Dated 12.09.2025. For & on behalf of President of India, Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer, South Eastern Railway, Ranchi-834003 invites e-tenders for the following work. **Name of work :** Outsourcing of machine washing of 2000 linen packets per day for trains originating from Hatia and Ranchi stations for a period of three years. **Approx Cost of Work (inclusive of GST) :** ₹ 6,34,42,110/-. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 4,67,200/-. **Date and Time for Closing of e-tender :** 07.10.2025 at 15.00 hrs. **Website particulars and details : www.ireps.gov.in** (PR-628)

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
Corrigendum
NIT No.: JBP/Project-EPC-2025-01R/1 Dated:13.09.2025
A Corrigendum No. 1 dt: 12.09.2025 of tender no. JBP/Project/EPC/2024/01R dtd: 18.08.2025 has been issued on ireps.gov.in website. For details, tenderers are requested to go through the corrigendum document'.
SD/
Dy. CEE (Project)
West Central Railway, Jabalpur
स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

Clarification: EOI-Extension of Timeline

This is with reference to the detailed Invitation for Expressions of Interest ("IEOI") in Form G, published on August 30, 2025, in the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process of Gstaad Hotels Private Limited (GHPL).

Pursuant to the approval of the Committee of Creditors (CoC) of GHPL, the last date for submission of Expressions of Interest (EOIs) has been extended from September 15, 2025, to September 25, 2025, to encourage wider participation from Prospective Resolution Applicants (PRAs).

For details regarding the revised timelines and other updates, PRAs are requested to refer to the process-specific website: https://incorprestructuring.in/gstaad_hotels_pvt_ltd.html or contact us at the process-specific email ID: cirp.gstaad1@gmail.com.

Jayesh Sanghrajka
Resolution Professional in the matter of Gstaad Hotels Private Limited
Reg. No: IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00216/2017-2018/10416
AFA No. AA1/10416/02/311225/107388 valid till December 31, 2025

Process specific address for correspondence:
InCorp Restructuring Services LLP
405-407, Hind Rajasthan Building, D. S. Phalke Road, Dadar East, Mumbai 400014

Date: September 16, 2025

SOUTH INDIAN Bank Date: 09.09.2025
GOLD AUCTION NOTICE
MARUTHI SEVANAGAR BRANCH
DO.NO.10/3-1, ASHWA ARCADE, BANASWADI MAIN ROAD, MARUTHI SEVA NAGAR,
BANGALORE - 560 033. Ph: 080-25461331
Email: br0231@sib.co.in, www.southindianbank.com

The Gold articles pledged under the following number/s at **Bank's Maruthi Seva Nagar Branch** which are not cleared by payment of Bank dues even after serving registered notice and Gold articles pledged under the same number against which registered notices have been served/returned undelivered will be sold in public auction or **private treaty on as is where is condition** at Branch premises as under or any other convenient date and time without further notice at the risk and responsibility of the pawners, if they are not released from the branch. Auction of Gold ornaments pledged under the following accounts will be held at **Maruthi Seva Nagar Branch on 23.09.2025 at 11:00 AM. EMD amount is Rs. 5,000/-.**

Sl. No.	Name	A/c No.	Gross Wt (in gms)
1	SAI ASWANI DATHATRIYAS	0231653000090412	17 gm

Bank reserves its rights to cancel/adjourn the auction without giving any reason at any time. Sd/- **Manager**
Corporate Office Regd. Office: SIB House, T B Road, Mission Quarters, Thrissur, Kerala - 680001
Telephone Number : + 91-487-2420020, Fax Number : + 91-487-2420020, E-Mail : sibcorporate@sib.co.in, Website : www.southindianbank.com. Corporate Identity Number: L65191KL1929PLC001017

AIR FORCE DAY CELEBRATIONS
INFORMATION TO AIR VETERAN OFFICERS BENGALURU AREA

To celebrate the 93rd Anniversary of the IAF,

a Social evening is being hosted at Officers' Mess of HQ TC, AFS Yelahanka, AFS Jalahalli, ASTE, AFTC, CHAF(B) and IAM on 04 October 2025 (Saturday). All Air Veteran Officers and their spouses residing in Bengaluru area are cordially invited.

Dress for the occasion is National Dress/ Lounge Suit/ Combination. Air Veteran officers are requested to indicate their preferred choice of Officers' Mess to Air Force Association, Bengaluru by 20 September 2025, for attending the Social evening. Contact details:-

Secretary, Air Force Association, Bengaluru Karnataka (Branch)-560006, Contact No: 080-23513319 (office)
E-mail ID: afakarnataka@gmail.com

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA
World Trade Centre, 6th Floor, Tower-F, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi
Vacancy Circular No. 1-10/2025-HR

Sub : Filling up of the post of Joint Advisor in TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru on deputation on foreign service terms.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India proposes to fill up the following post in its Regional Office in Bengaluru on deputation on foreign service terms.

Name of post	Pay Band & Grade Pay
Joint Advisor	Pay Level-13 Rs. 123100-215900 in the Pay Matrix as per 7th CPC

2. The last date for submission of application is up to **17th October 2025.**
3. Further details can be obtained from the TRAI website : **www.trai.gov.in**

CBC 06202/12/0027/2526

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.
SWRSBCMEDLP\REPS2025 Dated 09.09.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Name of Work	Approx.Value
Empanelment of suppliers for local purchase of all types of Medicines of Medical stores of Divisional Railway Hospital Bengaluru for a period of 2 years	Rs. 13511584/-

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 10.10.2025**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Chief Medical Superintendent, Bengaluru
PUB/460/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. BE-29-2025-26-OT-11 (through E-Tendering)
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Action for the following work.

Name of Work	Approx.Value
Replacement of submersible pumps, lifting & lowering, rewinding of moters in Bengaluru division for a period of 2 years	Rs. 4116570

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15:00 hrs on 30.09.2025**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Divisional Electrical Engineer/General/ Bengaluru
PUB/461/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

EASTERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Open E-Tender is invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Eastern Railway, Howrah, 4th floor, Yatri Niwas, near Howrah Station, Howrah-711101 for Provision of Catering Services through Refreshment Room at Bandel Station under Howrah Division for a period of 05 years having (a) Minimum of 03 (three) years of catering business experience, (b) Minimum Annual Turnover of 4.5 times of indicative License Fee in any one of the previous three financial years from catering business and (c) Profit or Loss + Accumulated Reserves + Share Capital of minimum Rs. 4.5 Lakh in all previous three financial years. Detailed tender notification available of **www.ireps.gov.in Allotment of Refreshment room at Bandel Station for 05 year. Station Code :** BDC; **Category :** A; **Location :** As per Sketch available with Tender Document (**www.ireps.gov.in**); **Reservation Category :** General; **Minimum License Fee/Reserve Price per annum :** ₹ 15,17,333/-; **Contractual Value :** ₹ 78,90,132/-; **EMD :** ₹ 1,57,800/-; **Tender Document Cost (Exc. GST) :** ₹ 5,000; **Tender No. :** COM-CATG-RR-BDC-2025-2; **Closing Date:** 03.10.2025. (1). 12% GST amount on Cost of Tender Document. (2). **Availability of Tender Document: www.ireps.gov.in** (3). **Period of Contract :** 05 years. (4). **Validity of Offer:** 60 days. (5). Bids are to submitted online only. No manual offer will be accepted.

HWH-293/2025-26

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in
Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा वितरण प्रमंडल, राँची

अल्पकालीन ई निविदा
निविदा सूचना संख्या – पे०स्व०वि० / वितरण / 02 / 2025–26
दिनांक– 12.09.2025

क्र०	कार्य का नाम	Construction of 3.00 lac Imperial gallon R.C.C. U.G.R. and E.S.R. - 21m staging in place of existing 1 lac gallon E.S.R. and U.G.R. with dismantling of existing E.S.R., U.G.R., pump house and other small structure and its rubbers disposal and necessary water supply line such as rising & delivery pipe and specials in the campus of Zila school water tower primises under D.W. & S. Sw. Distribution Division Ranchi.
1.	प्राक्कलित राशि	28743225.00 लाख (दो करोड़ सतासी लाख तैतालीस हजार दो सौ पच्चीस) रूपये मात्र।
2.	अग्रधन की राशि	290000.00 लाख (दो लाख नब्बे हजार) रूपये मात्र।
3.	परिमाण विपत्र का मुल्य जो लौटाई नहीं जायगी	10,000.00 (दस हजार) रूपये मात्र
4.	कार्य पूर्ण होने की समय	12 (बारह) महीना + 1 (एक) माह ट्रायल रन
5.	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	23.09.2025 अपरांह्न 4.00 बजे तक
6.	निविदा प्राप्ति (ऑनलाईन बिडिंग) की तिथि	27.09.2025 अपरांह्न 5.00 बजे तक
7.	निविदा अन्तर्गत परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि ई–गवर्नस विभाग झारखण्ड मंत्रालय धुर्वा, रांची के आदेश सह ज्ञापांक–120 दिनांक–03.10.2023 के अनुरूप Online करने की तिथि	27.09.2025 अपरांह्न 5.00 बजे तक
8.	तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	03.10.2025 अपरांह्न 5.00 बजे
9.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा वितरण प्रमंडल, राँची – 834009
10.	निविदा खोलने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा वितरण प्रमंडल, राँची – 834009
11.	ई प्रोक्युरमेन्ट पदाधिकारी का फोन न०	9608892111 E-Mail ID :- distributionbooty@gmail.com
12.	ई प्रोक्युरमेन्ट प्रकोष्ट का हेल्पलाइन न०	0651–2480345

नोट :– निविदा अन्तर्गत परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि ई–गवर्नस विभाग झारखण्ड मंत्रालय धुर्वा, रांची के आदेश सह ज्ञापांक–120 दिनांक–03.10.2023 के अनुरूप प्राप्त की जाएगी।
1. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान संवेदक द्वारा जिस बैंक खाता से किया जाएगा।
उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर बैंक खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही संवेदक की होगी।
2. प्राक्कलित राशि घट अथवा बढ़ सकती है उसी प्रकार से अग्रधन एवं परिमाण विपत्र की राशि भी देय होगी।
3. केवल ई–निविदा ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा।
4. विस्तुत जानकारी हेतु वेबसाईट ***http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in*** पर देखें।
5. निविदा बिना कारण बताये कभी भी संशोधित या रद्द किया जा सकता है।
6. राज्य सरकार द्वारा निर्गत अद्यतन आदेश / परिपत्र लागु होगें।
7. निधि प्राप्त होने के उपरान्त ही भुगतान किया जायगा।
इसके लिए अलग से कोई दावा मान्य नही होगा।

PR 361939 Drinking Water and Sanitation(25-26).D

कार्यपालक अभियंता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा वितरण प्रमंडल, राँची

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Actor Upendra, wife's phones 'hacked'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Kannada actor Upendra Rao and his wife Priyanka Upendra's mobile phones were allegedly hacked, and the cybercriminals demanded Rs 55,000 from their contacts.

The actor posted a video narrating the episode on X on Monday.

According to Upendra, his wife received a phone call and was made to enter some code, which "hacked both their phones" after the code was also entered on his phone.

"Please beware. If anyone messages from our number seeking money, please don't send it," the actor appealed to the public.

Priyanka then approached the Bengaluru police and lodged a complaint.

"It was a coincidence that I received a call where the person claimed that some of the household goods I had ordered were due for delivery. I had actually ordered these items from an app, so I believed the call. Once I entered the code, my phone was hacked, and my contacts received messages from my WhatsApp number asking for Rs 55,000 by stressing some urgency. Some, including my son, have even transferred it, and it has come to our attention. Attempts are being made to recover them," Priyanka told reporters.

Police suspect that it may be a case of a call forwarding scam where the suspects make the victim enter a code on their phone, making all calls, messages, including OTPs, be routed to the phone number entered by the fraudsters. Further investigation is underway.

Dharmasthala SIT prepares for search in Banglegudde

MANGALURU, DHNS: The SIT probing the alleged mass burials in Dharmasthala is preparing to conduct a search in the Banglegudde forest near Nethravathi bathing ghat.

The skull that the complainant-witness had handed over to the police was reportedly collected from Banglegudde forest. SIT officers had recently taken Vittal Gowda — who had pointed out the spot where the skull was found — to the location and conducted mahazar. The area comes under Belthangady forest division. Vittal is the uncle of Sowjanya who was allegedly sexually assaulted and murdered in 2012.

After the inspection, a video of Vittal claiming to have seen remains of several bodies went viral on social media. Following this, SIT officials called officers of Belthangady forest division to their office for consultations.

SIT sources said, "Since skeletal remains were found in the same forest where the skull was handed over by the complainant witness, we need to conduct a search".

Allotted govt quota engg seats, 351 students fail to report to college

No nod if they took admissions elsewhere: KEA to VTU

BENGALURU, DHNS

As many as 351 students who got engineering seats, but did not report to college even after the last date are under scanner.

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has asked Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) not to approve their admissions, if they have got seats elsewhere.

In a communication to the registrar of VTU, KEA said that in case the 351 students had taken admissions under management or COMEDK quota, their admissions should not be approved. KEA is also issuing show-cause notices to such students.

H Prasanna, executive director (ED) of KEA, said, "We are not saying that they have blocked seats, but we are issuing notices to know why they have not reported to college even after the third round of seat allotment".

As mentioned in the KEA's communication to VTU, the 351 students had taken government quota seats under government fees, but since they did not report to college, those seats turned into management seats.

> **H PRASANNA**
> Executive director, KEA
>
> "We are not saying that they have blocked seats, but we are issuing notices to know why they have not reported to college even after the third round of seat allotment.

"We have clearly instructed students to leave the counselling process, if they don't like seats allotted to them in the first and second round. If they get a seat in the third round, it is mandatory for them to report to college. Despite such instructions, 351 students did not report to college after the third round, causing injustice to students with lower rank, waiting for seats," Prasanna said.

The silver lining: Numbers down from last year

However, the silver lining is that the number of non-reported students has come down drastically this year. Of them, a majority have opted for seats at 'average colleges' and not 'top colleges'.

"Introduction of OTP and face ID-based seat allotment has helped reduce the number,"

Following reports that these students had taken admissions under management and COMEDK quota, KEA has asked VTU not to approve their admissions.

"We have shared the list of students along with their CET number and other details. As all admissions need approval from VTU, we have asked VTU authorities to withhold admissions of these students," the executive director said.

If the reply by the students to the show-cause notice is satisfactory, the admissions will be allowed.

KEA ED Prasanna said.

During the seat allotment in 2024, there were 2,648 students who opted for seats under government quota and did not report to college. Notices were served to all these students, terming them 'seat blockers'. KEA also registered a case against them.

Nearly 14k sign petition opposing power project in Sharavathi LTM sanctuary

First of two public hearings on pumped storage project in Shivamogga today

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

A day ahead of the first of the two public hearings in Shivamogga on Tuesday for the pumped storage project in the Sharavathi Lion Tailed Macaque (LTM) sanctuary, more than 14,000 people signed an online petition opposing the project.

The Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) has proposed to build an underground powerhouse between the Talakalale and Gerusoppa dams to generate 2000 MW power. The project requires 352.77 acres, of which 133.81 acres is forest land.

The hearing is scheduled at 11 am at KPCL Officials' Recreation Club, Kargal post, Sagar taluk at 11 am. Sources said a few hundred people are expected to arrive at the venue to present their views, mostly against the project.

The online petition listed 10 reasons to oppose the project, starting with the lack of cumulative impact and carrying capacity studies despite directions from the Forest Advisory Committee on July 30, to failure to disclose crucial details on the use of 18,000 tonnes of industrial explosives and failure to protect monuments.

"The use of 18,000 tons of explosives (HS Code 3602001, LD50 toxicity 1,510 mg/kg), recorded in the Form 1 application (Environment Clearance), is omitted. The resultant muck - estimated at 4.8 MCM - will contain hazardous residues, yet no management plan, toxicological assessment, or leachate analysis is provided, in violation of the Hazardous Waste Rules, 2016," said the petition on change.org signed by 13,630 persons on Monday evening.

The Rs 10,240 crore project has garnered much opposition in the early phase when tenders were awarded to a company even before the project received critical clearances from National Board of Wildlife and Forest Advisory Committee, leading to accusations that it was a contractor-driven work. The second public hearing in Uttara Kannada district, scheduled on September 18, is expected to draw bigger crowds.

SC suspends inquiry against HDK for 2 weeks in land grant case

Dismisses his plea, but allows him to approach HC

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday directed for keeping in abeyance for two weeks proceedings initiated by the tahsildar in May this year to proceed with an inquiry against against Union Minister and former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy, in connection with an alleged land grant case.

A bench of Justices Pankaj Mittal and Justice Prasanna B Varale declined to interfere with an interim order by the High Court of Karnataka on September 8, 2025.

"In the facts and circumstances of the case, as the writ appeal remains pending before the division bench, we do not deem it necessary to exercise our discretionary power under Article 136 of the Constitution," the bench said.

The court dismissed the petition filed by Kumaraswamy. It, however, granted him liberty to participate in the writ appeal and to get the matter decided on merits.

"However, further proceedings pursuant to the summons dated 29.05.2025 shall remain in abeyance only for a period of two weeks to enable the petitioner to approach the High Court," the bench said in its order.

The court passed its order after hearing senior advocate C A Sundaram and advocates Balaji Srinivasan, Nishanth A V and Harsha Tripathi for Kumaraswamy.

'Coercive proceedings'

Terming the action against him as "institutionalised harassment," Kumaraswamy's plea assailed the September 8, 2025 order by the High Court, which vacated the interim protection earlier granted to him by staying the summons issued to the him by the tahsildar.

The petitioner was aggrieved with the order, as it revived coercive proceedings and exposed him to an imminent risk of dispossession.

His plea contended that the actions of the state were a clear manifestation of political vendetta. It alleged he had been systematically targeted through a combination of administrative orders and judicial overreach in contempt proceedings.

"Repeated attempts have been made at the state's behest to dispossess him from land lawfully owned by him, by wrongfully invoking contempt jurisdiction, constituting a Special Investigation Team (SIT) without authority and issuing coercive summons to him," it said.

The petitioner vehemently submitted that he has a valid title and interest in the said properties, and there was no challenge whatsoever to his title thereof. His plea claimed he was the lawful owner of several land parcels in Kethaganahalli village, Bidadi hobli, Ramanagara.

In 2011, a former MP filed a complaint filed before the Karnataka Lokayukta, alleging illegal land grants in Kethaganahalli. Crucially, he was not named in this complaint.

OF POISE & GRACE

A youth performs Mallakhamb during Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations in Udupi on Monday. DH PHOTO

Take up farmer-friendly research: CM to agri varsities

DHARWAD, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday urged the agriculture department and agricultural universities to take up research and innovation and introduce new technologies to farmers by adopting 'lab to land' and 'land to lab' approach.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah speaks after inaugurating Krishi Mela at UAS-Dharwad campus on Monday. DH PHOTO

Addressing the gathering after inaugurating Krishi Mela on UAS-Dharwad campus, Siddaramaiah said, "Rainfed agriculture accounts for more than 60% of farming in the state. The agri universities should educate the farmers about the crops to be cultivated and cropping patterns.

The chief minister said that the early rains and a favorable monsoon had encouraged farmers to take up sowing on a larger scale this season, with the cultivable area expanding to 80 lakh hectares

"However, excess rains in several districts, including Dharwad, have caused extensive crop damage," the CM said According to preliminary assessments, standing crops spread across more than five lakh hectares have been destroyed.

Siddaramaiah assured that deputy commissioners have been instructed to conduct joint surveys of the damage, and compensation will be disbursed soon after the reports are submitted. "There is no dearth of funds to provide compensation," he added.

Saying that the food production is decreasing due to the diminishing soil fertility, the chief minister urged the scientists to look into the ways to improve the soil fertility.

Agriculture Minister N Cheluvarayaswamy announced that the government would construct 12,000 farm ponds and promote 6,000 agri-startups. "Each startup will receive financial assistance of Rs 15 lakh," he said. He added that the long-awaited Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Vijayapura and the College of Agricultural Sciences in Belagavi will be established soon.

Flagging concerns, Guv returns Buffer Zones Bill to govt

BENGALURU, DHNS

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has returned to the government the "contentious" Bill that reduces buffer zones around lakes, seeking clarity on the possible "adverse effect" the proposed law would have.

The Karnataka Tank Conservation & Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, passed in the legislature last month, amends the buffer zones of lakes based on the size of the water bodies. At present, lakes have a standard 30-metre buffer zone, where no construction activities are permitted.

As per the Bill, lakes up to 0.5 gunta or 544 sq ft, will not have a buffer zone. For a lake measuring up to one acre, the buffer zone will be 3 metres. It will be 6 metres for lakes sized 1-10 acres, 12 metres for lakes sized 10-25 acres, 24 metres for lakes sized 25-100 acres and 30 metres for lakes above 100 acres. By reducing the buffer zones, the government plans to allow construction activities like roads, bridges, electrical lines, water supply lines, sewage treatment plants and so on.

In his communication to the department of parliamentary affairs, Gehlot underlined issues raised by Bengaluru Town Hall, a citizen collective, which petitioned Raj Bhavan seeking rejection of the Bill. "As per expert opinion, the present buffer zone of 30 metre itself is insufficient, and the real requirement is nearly 300 metres to achieve ecosystem balance...the buffer zone should be increased, not decreased," Gehlot stated, citing concerns raised by the citizen group.

It was also pointed out that the government did not consult experts and the public on the implications of the amendment.

"It is in violation of the Constitution and settled law and is harmful for every citizen, affects the citizens' right to water security and a healthy environment," Gehlot stated.

In the legislature session last month, the opposition BJP had rallied against the Bill, calling it "a symbol of surrender by the government to the real estate lobby." Meanwhile, the Forest, Ecology & Environment department is facing pressure to drastically reduce the existing buffer zone of the Thippagondanahalli Reservoir (TGR) catchment area notified in 2003.

At present, the 1,453 sq km catchment area is classified into four zones, including three layers of buffer along the Arkavathy and Kumudvathi rivers where many development activities are restricted. The High Court, which stayed the Urban Development Department's attempt in 2019 to cut the buffer zone to 500 metres, has put the ball in the court of the environment department. "After the Bill was sent to the Governor, the department was told to cut the buffer zone to 30 metres and bring a proposal to the Cabinet. Considering the limited powers enjoyed by the gubernatorial post, the pressure is unlikely to end at this juncture," a source said

Govt convenes meeting to discuss ST tag for Kurubas

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government has convened a meeting Tuesday to discuss the inclusion of the Kuruba community under the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list.

The Congress government, in July 2023, wrote to the union government recommending that Kurubas, the shepherd caste Chief Minister Siddaramaiah belongs to, be put in the ST list.

Tuesday's meeting, convened by the ST Welfare department, will also discuss inclusion of Kurubas in Bidar, Kalaburagi and Yadgir as "synonym" of Gonda community in the state. The Mysuru-based Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute has been asked to attend the meeting with necessary details.

At present, Kurubas come under OBC Category 2A, which has a 15% quota. Bringing Kurubas out of this basket would allow Siddaramaiah to rejig the OBC matrix and accommodate other communities who want a bigger share. Giving Kurubas the ST tag could help Siddaramaiah consolidate the community further, it is said. If Kurubas come under the ST list, they can get higher political representation alongside a bigger share in the quota pie.

The ST reservation in the state was hiked from 3% to 7% in 2022-23. This is where another problem could crop up. At present, most of the ST benefits go to the Valmiki or Nayaka community. Bringing Kurubas in the same basket could antagonise the Valmiki/Nayaka community.

Reacting to this, Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka said the government was free to take decisions within the framework of the Constitution. "They (Congress) are doing it just for the sake of votes," he said.

Karnataka produces top engineers: DKS

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Monday lauded the engineering community, highlighting the state's significant contribution to the field on the occasion of the 58th Engineer's Day. He pointed out that the state produces one lakh engineers annually, with a focus on "deep tech and engineering excellence."

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar felicitates eight esteemed engineers at the 58th Engineer's Day Celebration held at The Institution of Engineers India, in Bengaluru on Monday. MLA Rizwan Arshad is also seen. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Speaking at the event held at the Institution of Engineers (India), [IEI] Karnataka State Centre, Shivakumar reminisced the legacy of Bharat Ratna Sir M Visvesvaraya, stating that in his village, any brilliant person was referred to as having "Visvesvaraya's brains." Shivakumar also recalled an anecdote where the then Prime Minister of Poland praised the high quality of engineers from Bengaluru.

"The top cream of this country are engineers," Shivakumar said, adding that civil and electrical engineers from Karnataka have made a global impact by creating marvelous infrastructure and generating electricity. He also expressed his personal interest in establishing a dedicated town planning school in Bengaluru.

The event, which was attended by IEI president V B Singh and Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, saw eight engineers from various fields being felicitated for their contributions Singh remarked that the people of Karnataka are fortunate to be born in the same place as the great engineer Sir M Visvesvaraya. He emphasised that engineers are the "visionaries, the innovators, the relentless problem solvers, who must carry ideas from thought to reality."

Cops raid pub; arrest eight for drug consumption

BENGALURU, DHNS: Eight people were arrested for allegedly consuming drugs at a pub in Central Bengaluru following searches by the police, officials said on Monday.

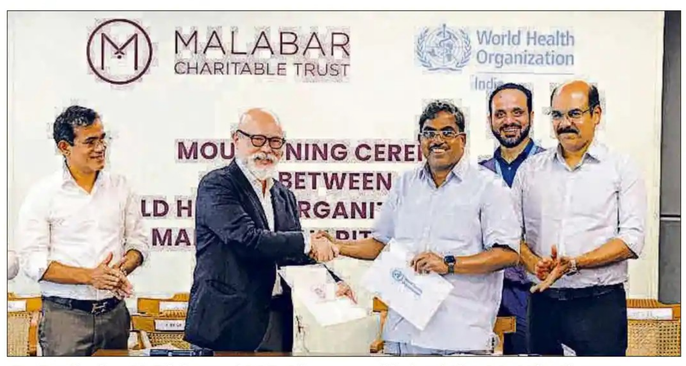
Based on a tip-off, a team of officials raided the Pebble Bar at Palace Ground at around 11.30 pm on Saturday, where around 180 patrons were present. Based on suspicion, 16 people were subjected to tests on the spot using test kits by the scene of crime (SOCO) officials. Eight among them tested for MDMA and ganja, both prohibited narcotic substances, as per a report by the SOCO team, officials said.

Preliminary investigations indicate that the suspects had consumed the narcotics before arriving at the location, sources said.

Malabar Group signs MoU with WHO India to implement 'Nurturing Beginnings'

Malabar Group, as part of its commitment to social responsibility, launched 'Nurturing-Beginnings', in collaboration with WHO India.

The project is designed to improve the nutritionand overall well-being of mothers and children from disadvantaged urban communities.



Dr Roderico H Ofrin and M P Ahammad inked the MoU in the presence of (left to right) Asher O, Dr B Muhammad Asheel and Nishad A K.

A MoU was signed at Malabar Group's Headquarters in Kuttikkatoor, Kozhikode. Dr Roderico H Ofrin, WHO Representative to India; Dr B Muhammad Asheel, National Professional Officer of WHO; M P Ahammad, Chairman, Malabar Group; Asher O, Managing Director – India Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds and Nishad A K, Group Executive Director; Dr V Idrees, Chairman, NGO Thanal; and Malabar Group's senior directors and management were present. The initiative will be implemented through the Malabar Charitable Trust.

M P Ahammad said, "Nurturing Beginnings is a very important project for us, as it extends the impact of our 'Hunger Free World' initiative".

Dr Roderico H Ofrin, said, "WHO congratulates Malabar Group for initiating such a vital project, which is crucial in shaping a healthier future generation".

Since its inception in 1993, Malabar Group has consistently allocated five per cent of its profits towards CSR.

Curated by DH Brandspot

Valmiki Corpn scam: CBI finds more fund diversions

Raids conducted at 16 locations in K'taka and AP

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday said that it has unearthed more illegal diversion of government funds in Karnataka during the investigation into the alleged scam in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited (KMVSTDCL).

According to the CBI, further instances of diversion of government funds belonging to the Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department and the Karnataka German Technical Training Institute (KGTTI) were established during their probe.

The ST Welfare Department falls under the administrative control of the Scheduled Tribe Welfare Ministry, whose minister at the relevant time was B Nagendra, the agency said.

Nagendra resigned last year before his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate. The ED is also probing the allegations which came to light following the corporation's accounts superintendent Chandrashekhar P death by suicide on May 26 at his Shivamogga residence. The Karnataka government also set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT)

"Investigation revealed that Rs 2.17 crore of ST Welfare Department funds were transferred from the account maintained with Bank of Baroda, Siddaiah Road Branch, Bengaluru, through intermediary firms such as M/s SKR Infrastructure and M/s Golden Establishment, into the account of M/s Dhanalaxmi Enterprises belonging to Nekkanti Nagaraj, a close associate of B Nagendra. Out of these funds, approximately Rs 1.20 crore were further routed into the accounts of the associates and relatives of the then minister B Nagendra, including his sister, brother-in-law, and personal assistant," the CBI alleged.

The agency said that funds were also transferred to the owner of a farm house in Ballari where the then minister used to stay.

"Similarly, Rs 64 lakh belonging to KGTTI were diverted from its account at Canara Bank, Wilson Garden (Hombegowdanagar) Branch, Bengaluru, to M/s Sadguru Education Trust and M/s Sadguru Solutions, thereafter to M/s Skillpoint Training, and ultimately to entities such as M/s Style Machine, before reaching N Ravikumar (brother of Nekkanti Nagaraj) and N Yashwanth Chowdhry (nephew of Nekkanti Nagaraj)," it added.

Documents recovered

The Central agency raided 16 places in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh on Monday linked to Nagendra's sister B Sharada, brother-in-law D Bharani Prasad, personal assistant K Vishwanath and other close associates — Nekkanti Nagaraj, his brother N Ravi Kumar and nephew N Yashwanth Chowdhry — resulting in the recovery of incriminating documents, property deeds, bank statements, and also details of vehicles suspected to have been acquired from the proceeds of crime.

The CBI registered the case on June 3, 2024, based on a written complaint from DGM, Union Bank of India, on alleged cheating, forgery, and criminal misappropriation of funds amounting to Rs 84.63 crores through illegal transfer/withdrawal from the accounts of KMVSTDCL between February 21, 2024 and May 6, 2024.

"On November 16, 2024, writ Petition No. 31101/2024 was filed by Basangouda R Patil, MLA, before the High Court of Karnataka, praying for directions to CBI to file a final report before the court, and to submit interim status reports during the pendency of the petition. Since then, the High Court has been monitoring the investigation. Four status reports have so far been filed by CBI before the High Court. Based on the status report submitted by CBI, the High Court had earlier granted permission to investigate," the CBI said.

Siddu 'ambassador of religious conversions': Ashoka

'Caste survey a veiled bid to divide society, target Hindus'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka on Monday called Chief Minister Siddaramaiah the "ambassador of religious conversions," accusing him of promoting unconstitutional caste divisions, displaying open favoritism towards one community and overseeing a failing governance model.

He was referring to the CM's recent statement that those who converted to Christianity should identify themselves as Christians in the upcoming caste survey and not by the Hindu caste they belonged to earlier.

The chief minister had also asked as to why would anyone convert "if there was equality in Hinduism".

Ashoka told reporters here that Siddaramaiah was actively encouraging religious conversions through the caste survey, which he claimed had introduced caste names and classifications that were not even part of the Constitution.

According to him, the entire exercise was nothing but a veiled attempt to divide society and specifically target Hindus.

R Ashoka

The BJP leader insisted that such a survey had no legal standing and would eventually be struck down.

Ashoka stressed that any action related to reservation policies or caste categorization must strictly adhere to the Constitution and existing court orders.

The BJP leader accused Siddaramaiah of consistently favoring Muslims in governance, while taking Hindu votes for granted.

He said that the Congress often sought Hindu support during elections, but later turned against the community by highlighting 'flaws in Hindu traditions and practices,' while choosing to remain silent on issues in other religions.

Ashoka took strong objection to the decision to invite writer Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate Dasara.

He claimed that this move undermined Hindu cultural traditions and called for the enactment of a new law to preserve the festival's religious identity and to ensure that all Hindu festivals were celebrated in accordance with Hindu customs.

Dasara is not just a state event, but a symbolic continuation of the heritage of Mysore kings, and should be respected as such, Ashoka said.

He mocked the government's much-hyped announcement of a Rs 5,000 crore development package for Bengaluru, pointing out that despite the allocation, the city's roads were in terrible condition.

Ashoka highlighted a series of price hikes that had taken place under the Congress' watch.

The LoP pointed out that the cost of 20 litres of pure drinking water had doubled from Rs 5 to Rs 10, and the prices of fuel and milk had gone up as well.

He criticized the introduction of a new garbage disposal fee and sarcastically remarked, "At this rate, the government might soon start charging for air".

Man opens emergency exit door of flight

HUBBALLI, DHNS: A case has been registered against a passenger for opening the emergency exit of the Hubballi-Pune flight recently.

According to the complaint, Niranjan Karagi from Belagavi district was heading to Pune from Hubballi in an Indigo flight on Sept 12. After boarding the flight, he opened the emergency exit door, inviting danger to co-passengers.

The Indigo staff in the flight and ground took him to Gokul Road police station, where a case was booked under BNS section 125.

The police said, during investigation, the passenger said he opened the emergency exit unknowingly.

He claimed that he was not aware of the consequences.

According to sources, after the door was opened, all passengers were de-boarded and the flight took off, after a delay of one hour.

Uphold democratic values, prevent voter fraud, Siddaramaiah tells citizens

BENGALURU, DHNS:

Emphasizing that the responsibility of safeguarding the Constitution lay with every citizen, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday appealed to the people to uphold democratic values and prevent voter fraud under any circumstances.

Speaking at the International Day of Democracy event at Vidhana Soudha, the CM stressed that protecting democracy was essential to protect citizens.

He urged people to consciously and actively fulfill their constitutional duties.

Warning of a conspiracy by vested interests to misuse voting power and undermine the Constitution, he said: "There was a time when only the rich had access to power. Today, whether rich or poor, every individual has been given equal power to vote. But now, this sacred right is being misused".

Siddaramaiah referred to Dr B R Ambedkar's principle of 'One Person, One Vote, One Value,' saying it was now under threat from 'anti-democratic forces'.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah beats a drum to inaugurate the International Day of Democracy event at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Monday. He is joined by Social Welfare Minister H C Mahadevappa, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, Food & Civil Supplies Minister K H Muniyappa and others. DH PHOTO/RANJU P

SIDDARAMAIAH
Chief Minister

"There was a time when only the rich had access to power. Today, whether rich or poor, every individual has been given equal power to vote. But now, this sacred right is being misused.

"It is our duty to prevent such attempts," he asserted.

Reflecting on India's complex social fabric, he pointed out that it was built on diverse caste and religious systems.

While democracy was introduced to preserve unity in diversity, the caste system had created severe inequality.

He emphasized that true freedom would be achieved only when every citizen attained social, educational and economic independence.

Invoking 12th-century social reformer Basavanna, Siddaramaiah cited the Anubhava Mantapa as a pioneering forum for democratic ideals.

He noted that Allama Prabhu, who came from a marginalized background, was appointed as its head, and that the forum included voices from all social strata, including women.

Speaking at the same event, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar echoed concerns about voter fraud and highlighted that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had taken up a fight against electoral manipulation, underscoring the seriousness of the issue.

"The judiciary intervenes when we make a mistake. The media highlights our mistakes. In spite of this, some are trying to steal votes," Shivakumar warned.

He stressed the power of the ballot over violence and monarchy, saying: "Ballot is stronger than bullet. The monarchial system that once existed is now sitting at home, while elected representatives govern. That is the power of the ballot".

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners **Mrs. Eliamma Rao**, wife of late **A. Ravindra Rao** and her daughter **Ms. Madhuri Rao,** both residents of No. 9, Rhenius Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore-560025.

Any person/s having any interest or claims over the Schedule Property or any objections to the sale may intimate us about the same along with documentary proof within 10 days hereof, failing which the sale will be completed as if there are No Objections and no claims exist or that they have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential Apartment No: 20, with BMP Khata No: 5/19 P.I.D. No.76-40-5/19 measuring 2,833 sq. ft. with a private terrace of 2,629 sq. ft. on 3rd Floor of the building `Skyline Residency', with two car parks Nos: 22 and 23 in the basement together with 5.5% equivalent to 1955 sq. ft. UDS in the land bearing BMP Khata No: 5 (Old No :1), Kingston Road, Richmond Town, Bangalore in Corporation old Ward No: 76 and New No: 111, Shanthinagar, Bangalore and bounded as follows:

North by: Methodist Episcopal Church and Measuring 180.5 ft. on that side; **East by:** Sona Garden Apartments and Measuring 204.3 ft. on that side; **South by:** Alexandria Street and measuring 169 ft. on that side; and **West by:** Kingston Road and measuring 206 ft. on that side.

M/s MOILY ASSOCIATES,
Advocates, No.9, 1st Cross, Lavelle Road, Bangalore-560001
E-mail-rslssm@gmail.com,
Cell Phone 9243196368 ; 9916327051
Dated: 15/9/2025 Bangalore

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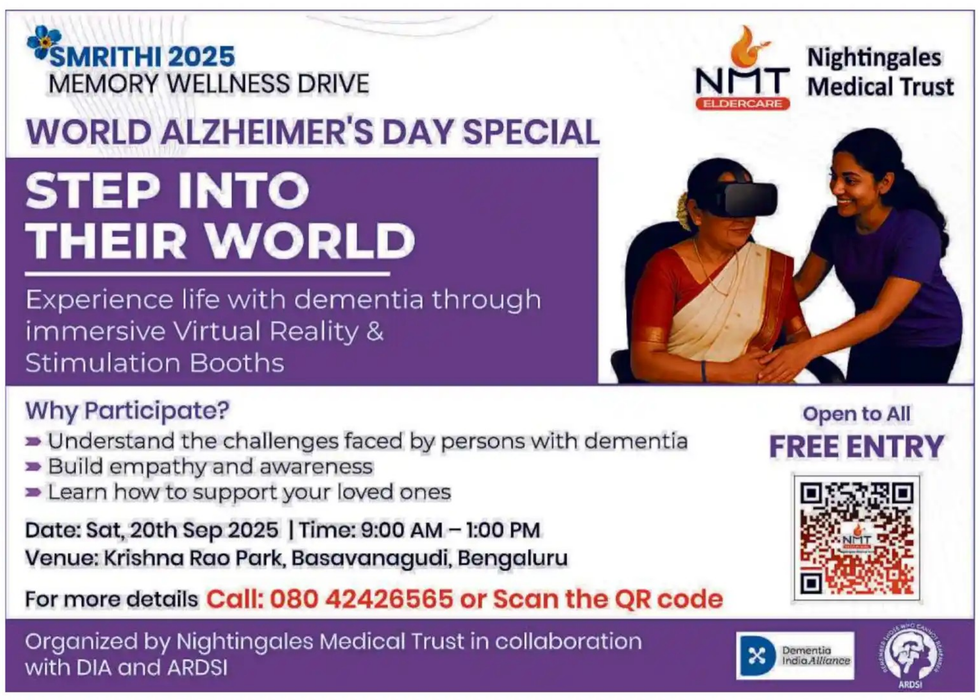
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MEMORY WELLNESS DRIVE
NMT ELDERCARE
Nightingales Medical Trust
WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY SPECIAL
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Experience life with dementia through immersive Virtual Reality & Stimulation Booths
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Understand the challenges faced by persons with dementia
Build empathy and awareness
Learn how to support your loved ones
Open to All
FREE ENTRY
Date: Sat, 20th Sep 2025 | Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Venue: Krishna Rao Park, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru
For more details Call: 080 42426565 or Scan the QR code
Organized by Nightingales Medical Trust in collaboration with DIA and ARDSI
Dementia India Alliance
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Business

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PERSONAL

Change of Name

I, NIRMALA G Y have changed my name to NIRMALA Y vide affidavit dated: 13/9/2025 Before Notary Shreeshail B.Gobbani Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **AKANKSH HEMANTH,** residing at No. 45, 1st Floor, Sahara Layout, Kanakapura Main Road, Behind Ritu Hospital, Subramanyapura, Bengaluru South Bengaluru - 560061, have changed my name to **AKANKSH HEMANTH TEJASVI** vide affidavit dated 06.09.2025 before notary D.G. Shanthappa, Bengaluru.

Lost

DOCUMENT LOST

I, **M.P. Ravivarma,** R/at No. 2, New Pension Lane JJR Nagar Main Road, Goripalya, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018, have lost the **Original Mother Deed, Registered in the name of M. Meenambal (Document No. Reg No. 4446, Volume No. 656, Page No. 209-211, Reg Dated: 27-03-1980** while in transit. If found please **Contact No: 9590752233.**

Cauvery theerthodbhava on Oct 17

MADIKERI, DHNS: Cauvery theerthodbhava will be held on Oct 17 at 1.44 pm at Talacauvery. Prior to this, rice-pouring ritual will be held on on Sept 26 at 9.31 am, Aajna muhurtha on Oct 4 at 8.33 am, placing Akshaya patre on Oct 14 at 11.45 am, said a press release.

CAUVERY NIRAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka under taking)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, KABINI CANALS DIVISION
NANJANGUD-571301, DISTRICT; MYSORE
Phone / Fax No: 08221-226261, e-mail:kcdngd@gmail.com
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement e-Portal only)
(Two Electronic Document System: e-D1-Technical Bid and e-D2-Financial Bid)
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

No-14/2025-26 Dated: 15-09-2025.

Turnkey basis tender has been invited through KPP e-Portal in two tender document system as per KW-4 & KW-6 standard bid document for the work of "Scheme to Lift Water from Kabini River near Gandhigrama village of Nanjangud Taluk in Two Stages to Fill 110 Tanks and Kattes in Gundlupet Taluk for Drinking Water Purpose. [Work Indent No-3908]" for Rs. 385.16 Crores from eligible contractors registered in KPWD/CPWD.

Details of tender processing fee, EMD amount, Pre bid meeting details, Last date for submitting and opening of tender and other details can be had from KPPP e-portal web site **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Further information can be obtained from this office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, CNNL KC Division, Nanjangud.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್
KARNATAKA GRAMEENA BANK
ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯದ ಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ಡ್ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ Scheduled Bank Owned by Government
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NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS
TEMPORARY DOWNTIME DUE TO SOFTWARE MIGRATION

Dear Customers,

As per the **Government of India Gazette Notification No: CG-DL-E-07042025-262329 dated 05-04-2025,** under the concept of **One State, One RRB,** Karnataka Gramin Bank, headquartered at Ballari, and Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank, headquartered at Dharwad, have been amalgamated into a single Regional Rural Bank named **"Karnataka Grameena Bank"** with its Head Office at **Ballari,** effective from 01-05-2025.This amalgamation enables the bank to offer **services across Karnataka through a network of 1,750 branches.**

To integrate the banking operations of both banks, software synchronization is being undertaken **From 19-9-2025 to 22-9-2025.** During this period, the banking services and all online transactions such as UPI, Mobile Banking, ATM, Internet banking and AEPS etc will remain unavailable. **Customers** are requested to **plan** their **financial requirements** in advance to **avoid any inconvenience.**

This migration is essential to **enhance service quality** and **ensure seamless banking operations** in the **future**. We **sincerely appreciate your cooperation** and **understanding** during this **transition.**

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Date : 15-9-2025
Place : Ballari

For any further details, you can contact 18001025250, 18001038210, 18008906766.

Chairman
Karnataka Grameena Bank

BJP warns govt over 'silence on internal quota'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Expressing displeasure over the government's continued silence on the issue of internal reservation for marginalized communities, BJP state general secretary P Rajeev on Monday accused the Congress government of showing disregard to vulnerable sections of society.

Rajeev told a press conference here that the one-week deadline given to the government to respond to the concerns was fast approaching, but there had been no communication from the government. "It has only two days left," Rajeev said.

"We will wait till 5 pm on Wednesday. After that, we will announce our next course of action," he said.

Rajeev criticized the government for implementing the internal reservation in an "unscientific and unconstitutional manner".

He said the policy was introduced without following procedures, sans supporting studies and in violation of Supreme Court guidelines.

He drew attention to the internal reservation structure introduced by the previous BJP government under former CM Basavaraj Bommai, which, he said, had given 4.5% reservation to four major castes — Bovi, Banjara, Koracha and Korama — and 1% reservation to 59 nomadic castes.

He said though these reservations were listed under two different categories, together they benefited 63 communities. The communities, according to him, were entitled to a total of 5.5% reservation.

Staffer gets 10-yr RI for cheating insurance firm of Rs 5.3 cr

HUBBALLI, DHNS: The CBI Special Court, Dharwad, has sentenced T Pradeep, former administrative officer (Accounts) of Oriental Insurance Company, Dharwad, to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 52 lakh after he was found guilty of misappropriating Rs 5.3 crore.

CBI special judge Zareena found him guilty of criminal breach of trust, cheating, forgery and abusing of official position. The CBI had filed a charge sheet in 2015.

The case dates back to 2013-14, when Pradeep as employee of the company had transferred Rs 5.3 crore to multiple accounts to several individuals in Northeastern states for encashment of his lottery prize that he 'won' in England.

Cyber fraudsters had called him in 2013 stating that he had won a lottery in England and to encash it, he had to transfer a certain amount.

Pradeep initially transferred his saving funds and later borrowed money from friends and relatives to get the prize money.

Between 2013 and 2014, using his personal net bank facility, he transferred office funds to accounts that were not connected to the business of the company.

Dasara launch row: HC bins pleas against invite to Banu Mushtaq

Says, not persuaded to accept it would violate Constitution

BENGALURU, DHNS

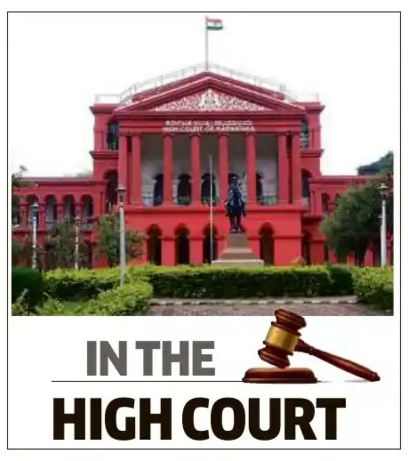
The Karnataka High Court on Monday dismissed three public interest litigations (PILs) challenging the decision of the state government to invite Booker prize winner Banu Mushtaq as the chief guest for the inauguration of the upcoming Dasara festival in Mysuru.

A division bench, comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C M Joshi, refused to entertain the petitions.

"We are not persuaded to accept that a person from a different faith inaugurating a function organized by the state would violate a legal or constitutional right of the petitioners or any values enshrined in the Constitution. The petitions are dismissed," the bench said while indicating that a detailed order will be passed later.

The petitions were filed by former BJP MP Prathap Simha, T Girish Kumar and H S Gaurav, both residents of Bengaluru.

The petitioners primarily contended that Banu Mushtaq had made "anti-Hindu" and



"anti-Kannada" statements at a literary event held in 2023. The petitioners said the Dasara festivities commences with the worshipping of the goddess Chamundeshwari. The counsel for Simha claimed that Banu Mushtaq was invited without even consulting the representatives of the Mysuru royal family.

According to the petitioners, in her speech at the literary event Banu Mushtaq had said that the state had kept her away from Kannada by giving the status of goddess (Bhuvaneshwari) to Kannada language.

This is a clear indication that Banu Mushtaq does not have any faith in worshipping a Hindu goddess, the advocate said, adding that the petitioner had no objection to invite her if she withdrew those "anti-Hindu and anti-Kannada" statements.

The petitioners submitted that the decision of the state government was a violation of Article 25 (guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion) and Article 26 (guarantees every religious denomination the freedom to manage its religious affairs) of the constitution.

On the other hand, Advocate General (AG) Shashikiran Shetty said that Pratap Simha, when he was the MP, had shared the stage with litterateur Nisar Ahmed when the latter inaugurated the festivities as the chief guest and that this fact has not been disclosed in the petition. According to the AG, Dasara is a secular function, and reducing it to a religious event is a myopic view.

He further stated that the selection of the invitees is done by a committee comprising all stakeholders, including the local people's representatives.

It is the worst kind of offence to bring in a Hindu-Muslim divide in such matters and such attempts should be nipped in the bud, the AG further requested the court to dismiss the petitions by imposing heavy costs on the petitioners.

Ramraj Cotton launches Swayamvara Grand

K R Nagarajan (left) and Rishabh Shetty at the launch of Swayamvara Grand.

Ramraj Cotton launched Swayamvara Grand, an art silk dhoti, shirt and towel set for special occasions. Designed for men who value tradition with a modern touch, the collection lets you wear your culture with pride. It symbolises the craftsmanship of traditional Indian weaving, with intricate designs that truly exemplify luxury and grandeur.

Each set is made from high-quality artificial silk that feels soft and comfortable. The fabric drapes well and has a gentle shine. Intricate jacquard patterns and detailed gold borders add a rich, traditional look. The collection comes in six elegant colours with multiple patterns, so you can choose a style that suits you.

K R Nagarajan, Chairman, Ramraj Cotton, said, "For decades, Ramraj Cotton has celebrated our swadeshi heritage while adapting to modern tastes. Swayamvara Grand reflects our passion for quality and tradition. We're proud to have Rishabh Shetty as the face of this launch. He represents the values our brand stands for."

DH Ramraj Cotton

Actor and filmmaker Rishabh Shetty added, "I'm honoured to represent Ramraj Cotton, a brand known for quality and timeless tradition. Swayamvara Grand is more than clothing - it carries a sense of pride and belonging. For weddings, festivals, and grand celebrations, it helps every man feel confident and special."

Ramraj Cotton has been a trusted name in men's traditional wear across India for decades.

Curated by DH Brandspot

Amid 2nd airport buzz, KIA...

KIA, From Page 1

"The EPC contractor shall be fully responsible for the end-to-end execution of the project, encompassing but not limited to excavation, civil, structural, architectural, MEPF, ICT, landscape and softscape-related works, airport systems, equipment, apron pavement works, ORAT (Operational Readiness and Transfer) across terminal, airside and landside areas," the notice reads.

October 15 is the last date to submit proposals.

"We are aiming to start construction by year-end or early next year. Phase 2 will be an extension of Phase 1, designed and built around the 'Terminal in a Garden' theme. With T1 already over capacity and Phase 1 of T2 expected to max out in the next five to six years, Phase 2 will be ready by then. The necessary designs have been prepared," a BIAL spokesperson said.

According to a source in the know, Phase 2 will come up on the southern side (towards the city). "Airlines will start receiving wide-bodied aircraft in 2027-28 to operate international flights. International traffic is growing rapidly, and there is a need to enhance capacity for flights scheduled between midnight and 4 am," the source added.

A dedicated walkway will also connect T1's extended arm with T2's Phase 1, he added. The KIA is the busiest airport in south India and the third busiest in the country. Passenger growth has risen by a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 14% from 2022-23 to 2024-25.

BIAL Chief Operating Officer Satyaki Raghunath had told *DH* earlier that the airport would invest Rs 17,000 crore by 2029 to expand airside, landside and terminal capacity positions.

Plans are also underway to build a third terminal, which would increase capacity to 110 million annually.

The expansion comes amid Karnataka's plans for a second greenfield airport for Bengaluru. Three sites, including two on Kanakapura Road in the south, have been shortlisted. There are also plans to rebuild and reopen the HAL airport for domestic operations.

An official from the Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation, which holds a 13% stake in BIAL, said the second airport plans were independent of the KIA's expansion.

Fishermen stranded in sea for hours

MANGALURU, DHNS: A deep-sea fishing expedition narrowly escaped a tragedy, after a trawler suffered an engine failure mid-sea and drifted ashore near the Ullal Seaground. Around 13 fishermen, who were onboard the boat, were all rescued safely.

The vessel, 'Buraq Trawler Boat', had set out from the Old Port in Mangaluru on Sunday night for deep-sea fishing. Midway through the voyage, the engine malfunctioned, leaving the boat stranded in the sea. Despite the breakdown, the incident went unnoticed by other fishing vessels operating nearby. For hours, the 13 fishermen remained stranded, battling uncertainty in the rough waters. Eventually, strong currents pushed the boat ashore in the early hours of Monday.

The trawler is said to have sustained heavy damages.

Heavy rains batter Raichur district; overflowing streams cut off villages

BENGALURU, DHNS

Heavy rain, coupled with thunder and lightning, that lashed many parts of Raichur district on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday damaged at least three houses and cut off scores of villages following the submergence of bridges.

A bridge on the bypass of the Bidar-Chamarajanagar National Highway (150A) near Sindhanur has been swept away following flash floods in the stream. Because of this, the road link between Bengaluru-Kalaburagi has been cut off.

The vehicles are taking detour for about 15 to 20 km via Pagadadinni. The NHAI and PWD officials have started constructing a makeshift bridge on the stretch.

A house in ward 5 in Lingasugur was damaged in a lightning strike. The Anahosur and Jagirnandihal villages have been cut-off from the town due to an overflowing stream.

The road link to several villages was cut off following the submergence of a bridge near Hutti Gold Mines in Lingsugur taluk, Raichur district, on Monday. DH PHOTO

As many as 16 houses in Hutti Gold Mines and at several villages in Gurugunta hobli have been partially damaged in the overnight rain. Three buffaloes were swept away in the floods of Medinapur stream.

With most of the streams in spate, students and daily wagers from villages had a torrid time in reaching Lingasugur town.

Lingsugur taluk in Raichur and Ilkal in Bagalkot district have experienced 90 mm of rain each in the last 24 hours. Hunasagi in Yadgir district recorded 70 mm of rain.

Down south, after a two-week long dry spell, Tumakuru city and surrounding areas received sharp rains in the evening.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department has forecast thundershowers for most of the north Karnataka districts on Tuesday and Wednesday. The department has issued a yellow alert for two days.

SC refuses to stay entire Waqf Amendment Act

Waqf, From Page 1

However, upon commencement of an inquiry, no third-party rights would be created in respect of such properties, the court ordered.

The court rejected a contention that the condition which requires that a waqf can be created only by a person showing or demonstrating that he is practising Islam for at least five years is totally discriminatory and arbitrary.

"Prima facie, we are of the view that such a provision cannot be said to be arbitrary or discriminatory," it said.

However, the court said, since no mechanism has been provided as of now for ascertaining whether a person has been practising Islam for at least five years or not, such a provision cannot be given effect to immediately.

"We are, therefore, of the considered view that unless the rules are made by the Central government by exercising its rule-making power under Section 109 of the amended Waqf Act, the provision of Section 3(r) of the Amended Waqf Act requiring a person to show practice of Islam for at least five years in order to dedicate a movable or immovable property for the purpose of creating a waqf cannot be given effect to," the bench said.

The bench clarified what has been observed was upon prima facie consideration for the purpose of examining whether an interim stay should be granted or not to the Act or to the provisions.

"The observations will not prevent parties from making submissions on the validity of the provisions contained in the amended Waqf Act or any of the provision(s) therein," the bench added.

Will scrap entire SIR if...

SIR, From Page 1

"We will definitely interfere," the bench assured the petitioners' counsel.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for the RJD, contended that there was a gross violation of the rules as well as EC's own manual, and there was virtually no transparency.

The bench said the moment it asks EC to respond, it will give a different story, so it will have to hear both stories.

During the hearing, the court also refused to modify its September 8 order, where it allowed the inclusion of the Aadhaar card as the 12th document in the revision of the electoral roll in Bihar.

Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, who has filed an interlocutory application to recall the September 8 verdict, asked the court to modify its direction on the ground that Aadhaar cannot be considered as proof of citizenship and cannot be equated with other documents accepted by the poll body.

The bench, however, countered this argument. "Driving licenses can be forged, ration cards can be forged. Several documents can be forged. Aadhaar is to be utilised to the extent law permits," the bench said.

WEATHER

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over North Interior and at most places over Coastal Karnataka and South Interior Karnataka

Forecast Sept 16: Rainfall to occur at many places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	26.6	20.6	0.6
Bidar	30.4	22	9.4
Vijayapura	28.5	21.6	05
Dharwad	27.6	NA	0.4
Haveri	28.2	21.2	00
Kalaburagi	30.8	22.9	7.3
Raichur	29.6	22	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	29.3	24.5	8.8
Karwar	31.8	23.6	32.9
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	31	23.5	4.3

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	20.5
Bengaluru	28.4	20.5	00
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	31.1	18.4	00
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	30	20.6	00
Davangere	29	20	00
Hassan	27.3	19.5	00
Mysuru	NA	18.8	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	NA	NA	NA

OTHER STATIONS

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
New Delhi	34.4	25.5	00
Kolkata	32	25.8	25
Mumbai	29.3	24.3	73
Chennai	34.9	27	00
Pune	29.2	21.9	60
Hyderabad	31	22.1	15
Th'puram	33.7	25.1	00

OUTREACH ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BENGALURU

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Tenders No. 2 and 3/2025-26 for supply of cotton bags, published on 09.09.2025 and 11.09.2025 by OUTREACH, stand cancelled due to changes in project specifications by the donor agency. Inconvenience is regretted. For updates, visit: **www.outreachindia.org**

Executive Director
Contact No.: 94490 77530

ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಮಾ ನಿಗಮ (ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ, ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರ)
कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम (श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
REGIONAL OFFICE, KARNATAKA, NO. 10 BINNYFIELDS, BINNYPET, BENGALURU -560 023
Phone – 080-26742485, E-Mail – rd-karnataka@esic.nic.in
Website: www.esic.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM

With reference to the advertisement published in **Prajavani and Deccan Herald on 30.08.2025 titled "ENGAGEMENT OF ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CIVIL), ASSISTANT ENGINEER (ELECTRICAL), JUNIOR ENGINEER (CIVIL), JUNIOR ENGINEER (ELECTRICAL) ON CONTRACT BASIS"** it is hereby clarified that the advertisement was inadvertently published on the ESIC Hospital Kalaburgi letterhead, which may be considered as published by ESIC Regional office, Bangalore.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PMD) FOR REGIONAL DIRECTOR
REGIONAL OFFICE, ESIC, KARNATAKA

Call to save Hirebenakal, lest it fades away from the canvas of time

PAVAN KUMAR H
HUBBALLI, DHNS

At least 30 rock paintings and over 100 megalithic structures which are said to be at least 3,000 years old in the seven hill ranges in a 10-km radius of Hirebenakal prehistoric site near Gangavathi have been either defaced or losing their colours due to poor maintenance.

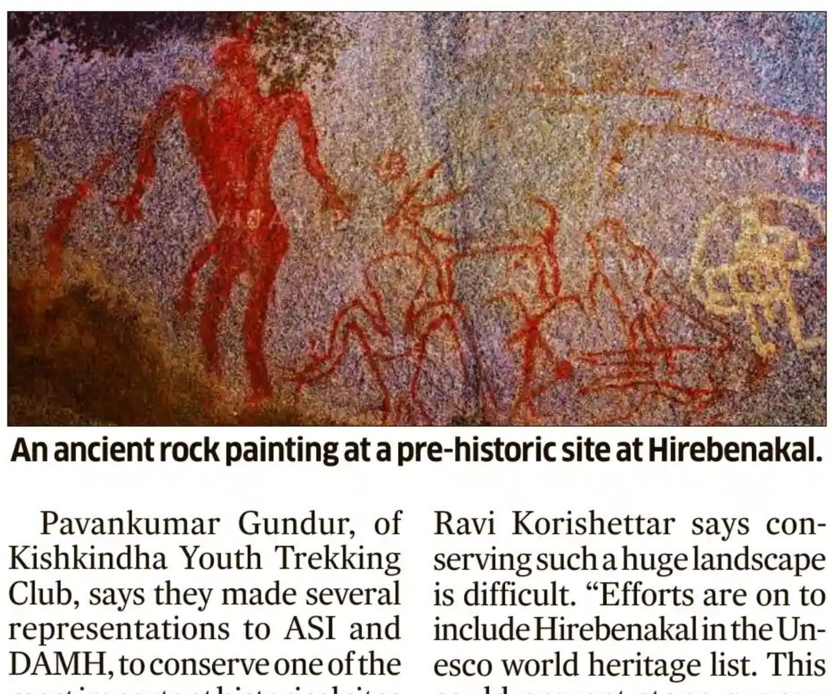
According to Gangavathi-based historian Sharanabasappa Kolkar, who has done extensive study on the cave paintings and pre-historic sites in and around Gangavathi, at least 130 caves in the region have over 250 wall paintings.

"A majority of them are surviving as these cave paintings are in inaccessible locations. But, as these paintings are not protected from anthropological activities and due to natural reasons, they are losing colours and are weathering," he says.

Locals say stone quarrying, encroachment and agriculture activities have destroyed important late neolithic and early iron age-megalithic period sites.

They say neither the central government's Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) nor the state government's Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage (DAMH) made efforts to conserve the sites.

Efforts to conserve the pre-historic sites in and around Hirebenakal in Gangavathi taluk of Koppal district are expected to get a boost if they are included in the list of Unesco world heritage sites.



An ancient rock painting at a pre-historic site at Hirebenakal.

The paintings in these rock shelters consist of motifs like long row of human figures, horse rider holding battle-axe, a row of deer, bull with long horns, peacock & 12-foot-long pythons.

Kolkar says these sites provide clues on hunting strategies, weapons (spears, axes), flora and fauna, culture and tradition, burial practices and other aspects of the semi-nomadic humans of the Iron Age - megalithic period.

Some of the major paintings are in Morera hill, Durgadadadi hills of Hirebenkal, Karadivatlu hill of Sangapur, Vanabhadreshwara hill and Karekallu hills of Mallapura, Benake Kandi hill of Chikrampura, Anegundi hills, Mouryara hills of Agoli, Yemmigudda, Rakkasakutri hill and Dubai Kutri of Bandi harlapur.

Even the three ash mounds near Hirebenakal, Vittalapur and Ramadurga have been encroached for farming, say locals.

Pavankumar Gundur, of Kishkindha Youth Trekking Club, says they made several representations to ASI and DAMH, to conserve one of the most important historical sites in India.

"Hirebenakal, on the tentative list of Unesco World Heritage sites, does not have basic facilities or signboards".

He says several dolmens (there are over 500 dolmens likely in the 20-hectare area of Hirebenakal) are damaged.

"Due to rain and heat, painting are fading. Vegetation overgrowth is also damaging rock paintings and megalithic structures," he says and urged the government to install CCTV cameras to prevent damages.

Renowned archaeologist Ravi Korishettar says conserving such a huge landscape is difficult. "Efforts are on to include Hirebenakal in the Unesco world heritage list. This could prevent stone quarrying here," he says and adds the public should also take responsibility to preserve these sites.

While Hirebenakal is under ASI's care, there are hardly any conservation efforts made. ASI superintending archaeologist of Hampi Circle Ramakrishna Reddy refused to comment.

DAMH director Devaraj says: "If ASI fails, DAMH is ready to take over its management".

He says he would make efforts to get legal status to other important sites in Gangavathi to stop mining there.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ – ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಎನ್.ಎ.ಬಿ.ಹೆಚ್. ನಿಂದ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)
ಬನ್ನೇರುಘಟ್ಟ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560 069.

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E-mail: director.sjicr@gmail.com Website: www.jayadevacardiology.com

Ref. No. SJICR/EST(3)/191/2025-26 **Date: 15.09.2025**

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the appointment to the Post of Staff Nurse on contract basis at Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bangalore.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Consolidated pay	No. of Post	Classification	Age Limit
1	Staff Nurse with Diploma in Nursing	22,000-00 P.M.	15	SC - 3 GM - 7 ST - 1 Cat-I - 1 IIA - 2 IIB - 1	SC/ST/Cat-1 - 40 Yrs GM - 35 Yrs IIA/IIB/IIIA/IIIB - 38 Yrs

Eligibility Criteria: - Candidates should be a registered nurse with Certificate of nursing, recognized by the nursing council.

Instructions: -

The candidates shall submit their application along with SSLC, PUC, Nursing Marks cards & Nursing Registration Certificates (duly attested).

Application Fee (non-refundable):

Candidates belonging to GM/Cat I/Cat IIA/IIB IIIA/IIIB category	Candidates belonging to SC/ST
Rs. 2,000.00	Rs. 1,000.00

Application fee may be paid by way of crossed Indian Postal Order OR Demand Draft, drawn in favour of The Director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research, Bangalore-69 payable at Bangalore.

The candidates claiming reservation shall produce valid caste certificates, duly attested.

The application format is available on the website.

The filled up application shall be delivered by the candidates by hand or by registered post to the following address:-

Director, Administrative office at 1st Floor SJIC&R main branch situated at Bannerghatta Road, Jayanagar 9th block, Bangalore - 560 069.

between 10.00 A.M to 5.00 P.M.

The selection of candidates for the said post is purely on **Merit** cum **Roster** basis.

The draft list of selected candidates will be published in the Institute website and in the notice board of SJICR at Bangalore.

The candidates selected on Merit cum Roaster basis shall have to produce their original documents pertaining to their qualification/age/caste for verification on the date specified in the website by notification.

This recruitment is **ONLY for Bangalore main branch** of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research.

This notification is available on the website of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research.

The last date for submitting the application is **30-09-2025**.

Sd/-,
DIRECTOR

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

India, US and a maze of mixed signals

President Donald Trump is blowing hot and cold and sending conflicting signals about the US' relations with India. The post-tariffs tension between the two countries seemed to have eased with leaders in the US taking conciliatory positions. Trump, who initially issued aggressive statements and imposed punitive actions against India over oil imports from Russia, had started striking less confrontational postures. It was taken as a sign of his realisation that India was not going to kowtow to the US and that it had other options. Within a few days after saying in public that it "looks like we've lost India and Russia to deepest, darkest China," Trump said he would "always be friends with Modi" and there was nothing to worry about. The President was also looking forward to speaking with Modi, a "very good friend."

Similar signals were sent out by others. Sergio Gor, Trump's nominee for ambassador to India, said Washington and New Delhi are on track to resolve the differences that have strained their relations. It was also announced that talks are still on for the proposed bilateral trade deal, and a Quad summit would be held this year. Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal has said that the first tranche of the trade agreement would be finalised by November. However, there was dissonance in the remarks of US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, who said India has "got to stop" buying Russian oil. Gor commented on similar lines. The US has also sought from the European Union and G-7 the imposition of stiff additional tariffs on India and China for importing Russian oil.

Trump is being predictably unpredictable. India cannot be distracted from its strategic priorities

India has done well to respond positively to the statements from the US. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that he reciprocated Trump's expressions of goodwill and hoped for a "comprehensive and global strategic partnership". By not attending the virtual summit of BRICS leaders last week, Modi may also have sent a signal that India did not want a confrontation with the US. Trump may have wanted to take the bilateral ties back from the brink. Or he may be bargaining with contradictory positions. It is too early to see his public postures, one way or the other, as genuine. The president is known for quick U-turns and mercurial responses. India, while being positive, must also be sceptical about the fresh round of US overtures. Irrespective of the headwinds and the unpredictability of the primary player of this plot, India must stand its ground and remain steadfast in protecting its national interests and strategic autonomy.

Metro jam: Between fares and funding

Starting February 2026, Namma Metro fares will automatically rise by up to 5% each year, based on the Fare Fixation Committee's (FFC) recommendation. This aims to prevent the kind of steep and sudden hike that commuters endured in February 2025, when fares were raised by up to 71% – the first revision since 2017. That increase made Bengaluru's metro India's costliest and provoked widespread public anger. The new formula offers predictability and financial stability for the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL). With heavy loan repayments and limited cash reserves, the corporation cannot sustain operations without assured revenues. For commuters, smaller, regular hikes are less painful than infrequent, sharp jumps.

Knowing that fares will rise by a fixed percentage annually makes planning easier and avoids sudden shocks. However, accounting principles should not be mistaken for sound public policy. The metro is not just a business venture. Public transport must remain affordable, accessible, and inclusive. By offering a safe, fast, and sustainable alternative to private vehicles, it helps cut congestion and pollution in a city gasping for clean air. Rising fares may prompt daily riders, particularly low-income groups, to switch back to two-wheelers, undermining the very purpose of building the metro. The state government must therefore strike a balance between BMRCL's financial viability and commuters' affordability. Subsidies, rather than ever-rising fares, should form the bedrock of this balance. Karnataka is already spending heavily on the Shakti scheme, which has cost more than Rs 12,600 crore since its launch in 2023 to provide free bus rides for women, irrespective of their income. While empowering women's mobility is vital, the state must also consider redirecting or rationalising part of this expenditure to support metro fares, ensuring the system does not become exclusionary.

Fixed, annual fare hikes ease commuter stress, but profits alone must not drive urban mobility

Targeted discounts can further cushion the blow for vulnerable groups and make fares more equitable. Special incentives, such as integrated passes across buses and metro, would also make multimodal transport seamless and cheaper, nudging more commuters towards public transit. Financial stability of the metro corporation is important, but it cannot be the sole guiding principle. Public transport is an investment in the city's future, in cleaner air, shorter commutes, and more equitable growth. Bengaluru cannot afford a metro that runs on time but runs out of reach for the very people it was meant to serve. If urban mobility is to be sustainable, the state must treat the metro not merely as a profit-driven enterprise, but as a lifeline for a city already choking on traffic and pollution.

ARC OF UNREST

Can India weather the neighbourhood storm?

The turbulence around us calls for vision, strategic precision, and political unity on matters of national interest

GURUCHARAN GOLLERKERI

India finds itself facing what can only be described as an arc of instability. From the deserts of Afghanistan to the waters of the Maldives, our immediate neighbourhood is a theatre of violence, unrest, and shifting allegiances. The turbulence that surrounds us is not episodic – it is structural, deeply embedded in the political fragility, ethnic fissures, and economic uncertainties of South Asia.

The fall of Kabul to the Taliban and the reassertion of extremist forces in Afghanistan opened a new chapter of uncertainty. Pakistan continues to be a cauldron of internal strife, military dominance, and a faltering economy, even as it nurtures networks inimical to Indian security. Bangladesh, though economically vibrant, faces growing polarisation and religious radicalism, and questions about democratic legitimacy. Nepal remains politically unstable, with China's shadow looming large over its fragile coalition politics. Sri Lanka has barely emerged from an economic freefall that shook its very state structure, while the Maldives has oscillated between "India First" rhetoric and an assertive "India Out" campaign.

This neighbourhood volatility is not a distant problem – it is India's first line of challenge. Instability at our borders translates into security vulnerabilities, refugee flows, radicalisation, and new theatres of great-power competition. India's ability to rise as a responsible global power is inseparably linked to its capacity to manage this volatile ring of fire.

If South Asia presents the immediate arc of instability, the global order compounds it with disorder. The tariff wars unleashed by former US President Donald Trump were more than a bilateral trade skirmish; they were an early signal of deglobalisation. Supply chains have since splintered, technology flows are weaponised, and the multilateral trade system lies weakened. The world is now realigning itself into fragmented blocs, where national security and economics are inseparable. China has emerged as both India's greatest trading partner and its principal strategic adversary. The US seeks India as a critical partner in the Indo-Pacific, but it is also a difficult negotiator on trade and market access. Russia, once our all-weather ally, is now a diminished yet indispensable partner, especially in defence. The Gulf remains vital to our energy security and diaspora remittances, even as it hedges between Washington, Beijing, and Moscow. Europe, struggling with its own crises, seeks India as a market and geopolitical partner, but hesitates in confronting China directly.

In this fragmented landscape, India faces the classic problem of middle powers: how to preserve strategic autonomy while engaging with competing blocs. India's current policy framework has served well in maintaining a fine balance, but it is clear that the turbulence of

both our neighbourhood and the world order calls for recalibration. Three pillars – foreign policy, national security, and trade – must be revisited in tandem, for they are increasingly inseparable.

In the neighbourhood, this means moving beyond episodic assistance or reactive diplomacy. India must design a coherent regional strategy that leverages the country's economic size, developmental experience, and cultural linkages. We cannot cede the neighbourhood to Beijing's cheque-book diplomacy or to the extremist forces that thrive in governance vacuums. Proactive investment in connectivity, cross-border infrastructure, energy cooperation, and people-to-people linkages will strengthen India's role as the natural anchor of stability. Equally, New Delhi must anchor multilateral mechanisms in South Asia that serve as confidence-building platforms, even if their outcomes are modest. Globally, India must leverage forums such as the Quad, BRICS, and the G20 not as ends in themselves, but as theatres to project a principled voice: one that advocates open trade, respect for sovereignty, and inclusive development.

Strengths and fissures within

On national security, traditional security frameworks – focused on the Line of Control or the Line of Actual Control – are necessary but insufficient. It must encompass cyber resilience, supply chain security, and the safeguarding of critical technologies. Disinformation wars and weaponisation of data will define future conflicts as much as tanks and missiles. India must invest in intelligence reform, integrated defence structures, and a sharper maritime focus in the Indian Ocean. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands must be transformed into the fulcrum of India's Indo-Pacific strategy. We must also recognise that internal cohesion – managing communal harmony, economic inequalities, and democratic vitality – is the bedrock of external security.

India's economic rise is its strongest geopolitical card. Yet, protectionist instincts and bureaucratic inertia often blunt our competitiveness. The recent tariff wars have shown that trade is no longer about comparative advantage alone; it is about resilience, redundancy, and national interest. India must craft a trade policy that simultaneously secures access to markets, attracts supply chains relocating out of China, and strengthens domestic manufacturing. Rejoining or creating new trade pacts with like-minded economies will reduce overdependence on any single bloc. At the same time, food, energy, and digital sovereignty must be treated as national security imperatives.

The turbulence of our times demands something that has often eluded us: a bipartisan approach between the government and the opposition and a broad agreement amongst contesting political parties on matters of national interest. Foreign policy and national security cannot be arenas for partisan one-upmanship. When governments change, the world does not reset its calculus. Continuity of purpose, even amidst political contestation, is essential. India's democracy will be stronger if the political class can converge on the broad contours of foreign, security, and trade policy, even as they contest its details.

The arc of instability around us is real, but India is not without agency. If we approach our neighbourhood with confidence rather than insecurity, if our global engagement is fair, and we treat trade as strategy rather than transaction, we can secure our rightful place as a shaper of the 21st-century order. We must demonstrate the sagacity to navigate the storm with vision, resilience, and unity. Is the political class listening?

(The writer is Director, School of Social Sciences, Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Lighting up the dots and lines

The *rangoli* contest was a lesson in seeing beyond the surface

SRIPRIYA SATISH

'You see, but you do not observe.' This famous quote by Sherlock Holmes in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *A Scandal in Bohemia* takes me back several decades to my school days.

A *rangoli* competition was announced just after the Diwali holidays. My cousin, a few years older than me and in the same school, was quite excited about it. Although we were both novices in drawing *rangolis*, her enthusiasm and excitement surprised me. After all, it was certain that many other students—experts in *rangoli*—had already enrolled. Our chances of even securing the last place seemed slim. When I shared my doubts with her, she chided me gently and encouraged me to be positive and give my name.

My aunt, a *rangoli* expert, offered to help me. She gave me a book filled with *rangoli* designs and asked me to choose and practise one of them. She also shared a tip: the more complex a *rangoli*—with several dots and connecting lines—the more beautiful it would appear. I showed the design book to my cousin, but she brushed it aside, saying she had other ideas in mind.

Her confidence intrigued me, but I had no clue what she was planning. I chose a design and decided to work on it. My aunt guided me patiently, teaching me step by step how to draw the *rangoli*.

As I'd mentioned earlier, I was a novice, so it took time to get the dots and lines in place—it was quite confusing. As the event drew near, I managed to somewhat master the design. What amazed me was that my cousin showed no signs of practising, yet her enthusiasm for the competition never faded.

On the D-day, though nervous, I mustered the courage to draw the *rangoli* I had practised, carefully placing the dots and lines. I used different colours to make the design more attractive. While I wasn't sure how it compared to others, I was content that I had at least made an honest attempt. When the time was up, we were asked to step aside. Curious to see what my cousin had drawn, I turned towards her space—and lo and behold! Her *rangoli* was stunning. She had created a simple design, drawn with precision, and had thoughtfully placed several *diyas* at key points. The lamps beautifully illuminated her artwork, making it stand out. Needless to say, she won a prize.

I was genuinely happy for her and asked how she came up with the idea of using diyas. She simply smiled and said, "I observed the magic the *diyas* created during our Diwali celebration and decided to bring that charm into my *rangoli*!"

That event taught me a valuable lesson—the power of observation beyond ordinary sight. Many have seen apples fall from trees, but it was only Sir Isaac Newton who truly observed it and uncovered the law of gravitation. Isn't that the difference between merely seeing and truly observing?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No reconciliation possible without democratic dialogue

Apropos 'PM delivers too little, too late in Manipur' (Sep 15), Prime Minister Narendra Modi's long-overdue visit to Manipur has done little to ease the deep divisions and mistrust plaguing the state. While he spoke of building a bridge of trust and announced development projects worth thousands of crores, these gestures fall short of addressing the core issues. The conflict is not rooted in a lack of infrastructure but in ethnic tensions, historical injustices, and political failures. His 864-day silence, despite over 250 deaths and 60,000 displacements, has only widened the credibility gap. The government's peace efforts, such as reviving the SoO agreement, collapsed due to a lack of broad-based consensus. No real reconciliation can occur unless all stakeholders are brought into a transparent, democratic dialogue. If the Centre is truly committed to peace, it must abandon tokenism and take decisive, impartial steps towards lasting harmony.

K Chidanand Kumar, Bengaluru

Political gimmick

Apropos '40% graft: What can another committee do?' (Sep 15), it is common to notice that with every change in government, whether at the state or central level, the incumbent government appoints probe committees to investigate alleged wrongdoings by the previous government, thereby projecting itself as being untainted by corruption. This is no more than a political gimmick. However, the same government deliberately does little to pursue the findings and prosecute the guilty. This is why it is called 'adjustment politics' at the expense of the innocent general public who voted for better governance.

T V Pandarinath Naidu, Kudige

A neglected sector

It is unfortunate that while scaling down the GST slabs to just two, the finance ministry has overlooked the special needs of the disabled, as the accessories they require have been placed in the highest slab of 18% (GST reforms bring no relief to differently abled, Sep 15). The FM should focus on this sector, and if the GST cannot be entirely waived off, the implements used by the disabled could be brought under the 5% slab.

C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

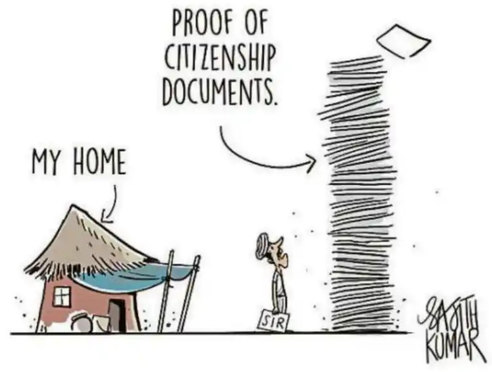
After our government came to power, we have made efforts for the progress of the state... Today we have done our fourth ground breaking ceremony in Bhubaneswar, which confirmed commitments of over Rs 2 lakh crore, and we have ensured employment for more than 1.5 lakh people... This is a significant achievement...

Mohan Charan Majhi, Odisha CM

An ounce of performance is worth pounds of promises.

Mae West

TO BE PRECISE



IN PERSPECTIVE

Fertility through a capitalist lens

Attributing the falling rates to women's empowerment risks skewed, problematic interpretations of feminism

SHILPI ROY CHOWDHURY

Among the widely accepted reasons for the drop in fertility rates are empowerment of women, better bodily autonomy, increased literacy rates, increased access to contraception, and emigration. However, tracing low fertility rates exclusively to empowered women and their bodily autonomy is problematic. While most educated women today may not face traditional barriers to reproductive autonomy (like family), they grapple with a very modern problem: capitalism and workplace compulsions.

There is an urgent need to raise greater awareness about population-related issues. Over the past few years, fertility rates in many countries have been declining. The alarm bells have been sounded on the rate in India as well. A recent UN report estimates the fertility rate as 1.9 births per woman; 2.1 is considered the population replacement rate.

Traditionally, families control the fertility choices of a woman, from deciding when she gets married and starts bearing children, to when she should stop having children, which, in many cases, is at the birth of a boy child.

This control is today being replaced, or compounded, by workplaces that systematically create situations that make it very difficult for women to have children. Some workplaces do not pay maternity benefits to completion, some others encourage women to quit. Also, some of the workplaces are decidedly misogynistic in their hiring. Women are chosen, not based on merit, but on irrelevant and intrusive questions about marriage and family planning.

As per the law, there is no bar to the number of children a woman can have. However, the Maternity Benefit Act 1961 provides 26 weeks of maternity leave to a woman for the first two children. If she has two or more surviving children, then she will only receive twelve weeks of maternity leave. This acts as a disincentive for women to have more than two children. Further, the legislature has not provided for compulsory paternity leave. Companies have started recognising short paternity leaves based on their discretion. This can range from five days to a month. Since a lot of men choose not to avail the leave, the burden of childcare falls again on the woman, which in turn hurts her employability. Without the support of the spouse, 26 weeks of maternity leave become inadequate, forcing couples to delay having children.

The stress of urban life adversely impacts reproductive systems. This has been documented in medical journals. The healthcare industry is allowed to rampantly commercialise this urban tragedy in pursuit of profit. The brunt of this is invariably borne by women. Fertility treatments are available at prohibitive costs, thus making motherhood a choice only for the upper classes. There have been reports of hospitals pushing for C-section deliveries so that they can control how quickly a bed can be vacated and made available to the next pregnant woman. Such forced treatments and procedures can impact a woman's reproductive health in the future, further affecting fertility rates.

The opportunity bias

Empowerment of women can only play a role in more autonomous decision-making when it is realised across social and economic classes, and across institutions. Recognising maternity benefits without factoring in paternal involvement leads to reinforcing patriarchal norms rather than asserting women's empowerment. Mothers, while away on maternity leave, are out of sight and thus, out of mind. They end up missing out on opportunities at work, which eventually may have an impact on their career path.

Fathers face no such disadvantage. They are back at their workplaces a few days after the child's birth, and they move ahead in their careers. Fathers should be brought under the ambit of compulsory leave, so that they may play a more active role in their child's life, rather than just being a weekend presence. They may also be more empathetic to the involuntary nature of missed opportunities women face during maternity leave. More couples, then, might opt to have children since they cumulatively have more time for child rearing. Making fertility treatment more accessible and equitable is also important to support a stable fertility rate.

Spinning a narrative that decidedly identifies women's empowerment as a reason for falling fertility rates is dangerous. There is a need to see these numbers also in the context of capitalism and restrictive work structures. It is time we recognised that feminism can foster more equitable societies, and ill-informed analyses on its impact could further erode the idea of equal opportunity.

(The writer is an assistant professor at the School of Law, Christ [Deemed to be University], Bengaluru)

Hazratbal shrine: A sacred space repeatedly hijacked by politics

ZULFIKAR MAJID

From the disappearance of Prophet Mohammad's holy relic in 1963 to the siege of 1993, the burning of Chrar-e-Sharif in 1995, and the emblem row of 2025, Kashmir's most revered shrines have repeatedly been drawn into the vortex of politics and conflict. Each controversy has chipped away at their sanctity, turning places of prayer into stages for propaganda, power struggles, and identity wars.

The Hazratbal shrine on the banks of Dal Lake, the spiritual heart of Kashmir's Sufi Islam, has particularly borne this burden. For devotees, Hazratbal is a place of tears, humility and connection with the last Prophet of Islam through the *Moi-e-Muqaddas* (the holy relic). For terrorists, separatists, and mainstream politicians, it has too often become a convenient tool.

■ The relic agitation of 1963: The first storm came in December 1963, when the relic of the Prophet went missing. The Valley erupted in unprecedented protests, paralysing the state until the relic was mysteriously recovered 15 days later. Faith had been shaken, but politics reaped the dividends. The agitation toppled Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad and brought G M Sadiq to power. Ordinary people mourned the sacrilege, yet the real beneficiary was political change. Even today, questions linger over whose house the relic was found in and whether its disappearance was accidental or a calculated ploy to reshape Kashmir's politics.

■ Hazratbal under siege in 1993: The most prolonged and tense episode in Hazratbal's modern history unfolded in October 1993, when armed terrorists took refuge inside the shrine, forcing security forces into a weeks-long standoff. For the state, storming Hazratbal was unthinkable—it housed the Prophet's relic, and any damage could have set the Valley ablaze. For the terrorists, this was precisely the point: by hiding in Hazratbal, they sought to provoke sacrilege and convert religious fervour into political capital.

The siege drew international attention. Global media portrayed Hazratbal as a sacred shrine under siege, while separatist groups cast the terrorists as "defenders of faith." Within Kashmir, rumours spread that the relic itself was endangered, triggering mass protests. For the faithful, the sight of their holiest shrine ringed with bunkers and barbed wire was a wound. For separatists, it became propaganda gold. For the state, it was a grim lesson in how faith could be weaponised at the height of insurgency.

■ The flames of Chrar-e-Sharif, 1995: Just two years later, another Sufi shrine was dragged into violence. In 1995, Pakistani terrorist commander Mast Gul and his men occupied the 600-year-old shrine of Sheikh Noor-ud-din Noorani at Chrar-e-Sharif. The ensuing battle reduced the shrine to ashes. Together, Hazratbal and Chrar revealed how terrorists and separatists exploited Kashmir's spiritual heritage.

■ The emblem row of 2025: The latest storm arose not from a relic or a siege, but from a plaque. Earlier this month, the Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board installed a marble slab bearing the Ashoka emblem inside Hazratbal. To many devotees, it seemed unnecessary. To politicians, it was an opportunity.

National Conference leader and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah called it insensitive. PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti went further, demanding blasphemy charges against Waqf Chairperson Darakshan Andrabi. Andrabi, in turn, defended the emblem as a symbol of national honour. When some angry devotees vandalised the plaque, it should have been treated as a simple case of vandalism. Instead, it was blown up online and in political speeches as another "Kashmir vs India" flashpoint. Lost in the din was a basic truth: the Ashoka emblem is not an idol but a national identity marker. The outrage was less about faith and more about politics.

The emblem row also revived scrutiny of the Waqf Board, which administers Hazratbal and other shrines. For decades, successive governments treated it as a patronage machine. Appointments, contracts, land leases and loans went to party loyalists. Prime orchards and real estate were handed to influential families at throwaway prices. Revenues that should have supported education and welfare often vanished into political networks. Hazratbal, the jewel in the Waqf crown, was left vulnerable.

To its credit, the present Waqf administration has tried to chart a different course. Hundreds of acres of encroached land have been reclaimed. Revenue collections are being streamlined. These are modest but important steps -- far more than previous governments ever attempted.

The repeated controversies underline a larger tension: the battle between faith and politics. Hazratbal is the embodiment of Kashmir's Sufi ethos—an ethos that preaches love, humility, and inclusiveness. Yet every time politics intrudes, that ethos is weakened.

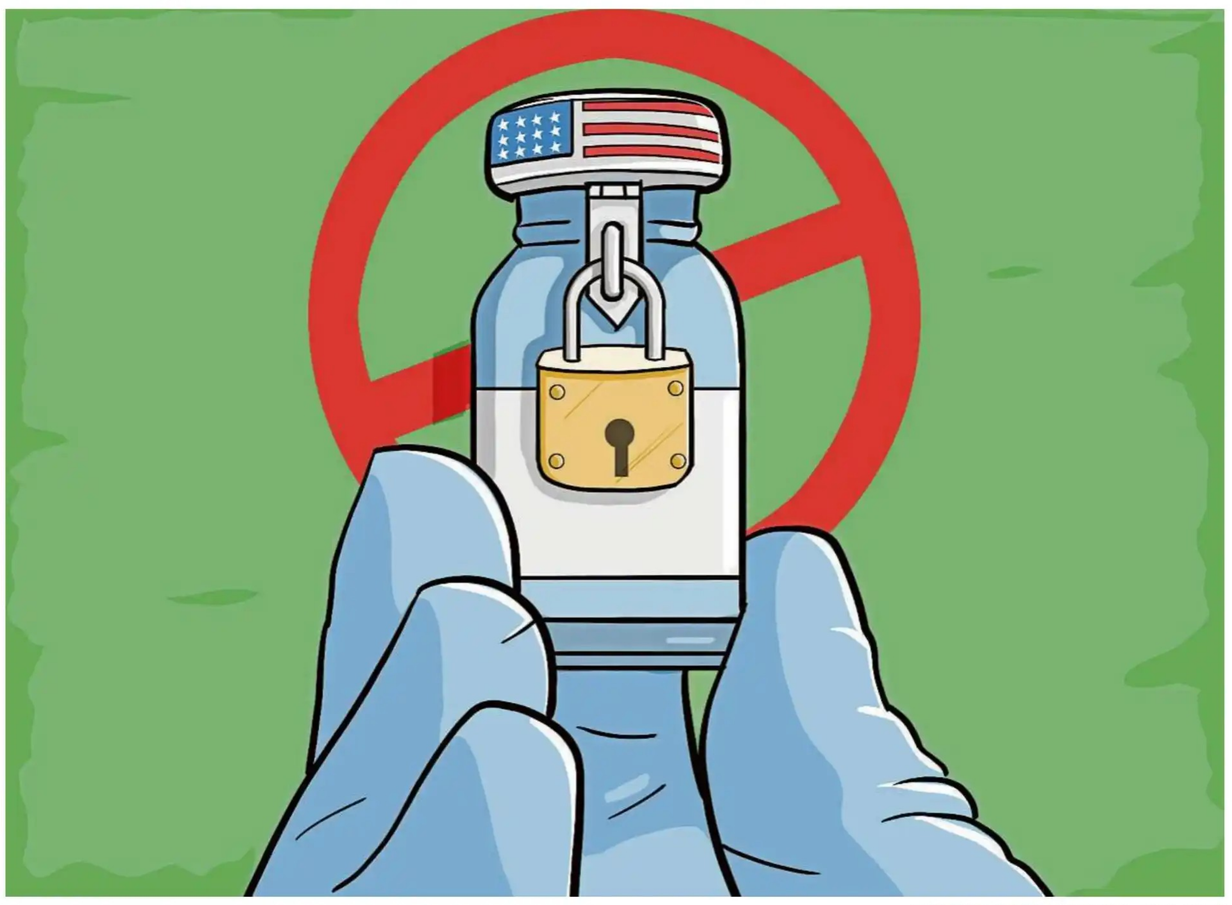
The relic agitation of 1963, the siege of 1993, the flames of Chrar in 1995 and the emblem row of 2025 all show the same pattern: ordinary devotees sidelined, their faith reduced to fuel for someone else's agenda. In a Valley already scarred by alienation, such politicisation only strengthens extremist narratives.

Hazratbal does not belong to ruling parties, opposition leaders or separatist groups. It belongs to the faithful. Its sanctity is not negotiable. If Kashmir's leaders—political, religious and administrative—are serious about protecting the Valley's Sufi tradition, they must leave Hazratbal to devotees.

The shrine must not be framed as either a nationalist symbol or a separatist bastion. It must remain what it was meant to be: a sanctuary of prayer and peace. Only then can it reclaim its rightful role as the heart of Kashmir's spiritual life, a space of healing in a land too often torn by conflict. **DHNS**

Most governments are trying to fight vaccine hesitancy with science and investment, while the United States heads in the opposite direction

DAMIEN CAVE



DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

US anti-vaccine policies ripple across the world

When Vietnam considered making Covid-19 vaccines mandatory for children deep into the pandemic, many parents resisted, fearing side effects and rumours of expired doses.

Their scepticism helped shape policy — the Covid vaccine mandate never happened. And it led to greater caution. More parents started scrutinising packaging to ensure that every vaccine jabbed into an arm came from a reputable company.

What Vietnam's Covid concerns did not do was metastasise into a broader anti-vaccine movement like what the world is now watching in the United States. Instead, Covid revived gratitude for routine vaccination. Coverage for the first dose of the measles vaccine in Vietnam reached 98% in 2024, and the vaccine for polio reached 99%.

"There was a scare, and that's why there was an almost global commitment to say, 'We will now work toward making a more robust system,'" said Basil Rodrigues, UNICEF's Regional Health Adviser for East Asia and the Pacific. "Countries are trying to ensure that they strengthen their vaccine systems." Brazil, Nigeria, Hungary and Samoa are just a few of the nations investing more in vaccination to try to catch up after Covid, during a global rise in outbreaks of measles and yellow fever.

That makes the US an obvious outlier, though not because of public opinion, which still favours vaccination. Rather, experts say, it is because of the government. Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr and other vaccine critics are now in charge of public health and they are stripping away support for vaccine development, promotion and distribution.

Florida recently became the first US state to announce an end to mandates for vaccines. Experts say that weakens a policy devised to ensure that — in a decentralised and unequal healthcare system — nearly every child could be protected from horrific infections. Kennedy has defunded vaccine research. He has replaced vaccine experts with critics on a key advisory panel, limited access to Covid-19 shots and muddied official guidance on many others, worrying experts who see confusion eroding vaccine confidence worldwide.

As Heidi J Larson, who leads the Vaccine Confidence Project at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, recently put it in an essay for *The Lancet*: "The US, long a cornerstone of global health leadership, has become an unexpected source of global instability in vaccination confidence." The Department of Health and Human Services, responding to such critiques from experts, said in an email that Kennedy was simply "being honest and straightforward about what we know — and what we don't know — about medical products, including vaccines."

But scientists see facts being cast aside, with effects that could last for years.

"The threat is this: that the US style anti-vax movement linked to MAHA wellness-influencer grifting and authoritarianism is now globalising," said Peter J Hotez, a vaccine expert at Baylor College of Medicine and the author of a new book, *The Deadly Rise of Anti-Science*.

Americans are not unique in having doubts about vaccines, not now and not before Covid. During French rule in Vietnam, medicines, including vaccinations, were seen as tools of colonisation. They were rumoured to be used for sterilising women and girls, fears that also arose elsewhere, including in parts of Africa and among Indigenous groups in Canada.

Decades later, the CIA's deployment of a fake hepatitis B vaccination programme to locate Osama bin Laden in Pakistan significantly damaged trust. In China, many still resist vaccination after one of the country's main vaccine manufacturers falsified inspection and production reports in 2018.

Governments have typically responded to concerns, both valid and unfounded, with outreach and science. Over decades, they have added clinics in remote areas, collaborated with international partners on public service campaigns and relied on doctors to recruit families. Mandates, usually focused on entry to school, have also been common for decades.

In a recent study of 194 countries by international academics, 106 nations had policies requiring vaccination for at least one disease. Vaccines against diphtheria, measles, and tetanus were the most mandated, while Covid vaccines were among the least. Governments often harden childhood mandates when threats intensify. For example, Italy and France added measles to their mandatory schedules after outbreaks in 2017 and 2018. Within two years, vaccination rates had risen nearly six percentage points in Italy, and around four in France.

That is usually how it goes, though less so with Americans. After a measles outbreak in 2015 led California to stop letting parents opt out of vaccines for nonmedical reasons, such as "personal belief," fewer kindergartners showed up at school without their shots. But studies later found that medical exemptions had quadrupled. The medical exemption rate at private schools was 10 times higher than the median nationwide. America did not start out determined to avoid vaccines. In 1806, President Thomas Jefferson wrote a letter to Edward Jenner, an English scientist, thanking him for developing the world's first vaccine, against smallpox.

In 1855, after a rash of smallpox deaths, Massachusetts became the first state to require that children be vaccinated for school. In 1905, the Supreme Court upheld the right to mandate vaccination for public safety.

None of that history earned a mention when Joseph Ladapo, the Florida surgeon general, announced last week that Florida would end vaccine mandates.

"Who am I to tell you what to put in your body?" he said to loud applause, at an event near Tampa. "Your body is a gift from God."

Ladapo and others — including Kennedy — have celebrated a "your research, your choice" approach that, according to various studies, bolsters false claims of vaccine danger. Worldwide, the US is a major exporter of vaccine misinformation. But infectious diseases move along vectors of logic. And Americans are not immune.

Between 2018 and 2023, the Americas, including the US, reported nearly 50,000 confirmed cases of measles in 18 countries, according to the World Health Organisation. Between December 2024 and April 2025, there were 212 confirmed cases of yellow fever in the region, including 85 deaths, triple the number of cases from 2024.

Many of the outbreaks had been imported from other countries, with cases coming from as far away as Thailand.

That global exchange of vaccine-preventable diseases will become more common, experts argue, because worldwide vaccination levels are still below those from before Covid — the pandemic disrupted the supply chain for many vaccines and kept people from scheduled vaccination. It is also, many add, because the US is backing away from its role as a champion of immunisation.

"It's a cliché that infectious diseases know no borders, but it is true that our global preparedness and response to infectious diseases relies on a strong US presence and US commitment to vaccination, from research to development to deployment," said Jason L Schwartz, a public health professor at Yale. "So the steady weakening of US government support for all aspects of vaccination will invariably weaken our response to vaccine preventable diseases around the world." Maybe Vietnam and a few others with vaccination rates above 95% will have enough immunity to avoid the fallout. But in many countries, a small dip in vaccination could create huge vulnerabilities. Vaccine veterans worry about countries like Papua New Guinea, where the reemergence of polio a few years ago required six rounds of vaccination and many millions of dollars to control. **NYT**

The missing sense of rationalism

S K ARUN MURTHI

To what extent do the rationalists in India engage with rationalism in a deeper sense? What prompts me to raise this question – much to the chagrin of some who claim to be rationalists -- are recent events that highlight how shallow the discourse often is.

On one side are statements made by Bharatiya Janata Party leaders Anurag Thakur and Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Thakur claimed Lord Hanuman was the first to travel in space, while Chouhan claimed that Pushpak Viman predated the Wright brothers. Chouhan made this remark at a science institute of national importance, seemingly oblivious to the incongruity between science and mythology, reason and faith. Such claims typify traditional revivalism-- the attempt to legitimise aspects of the past by linking them to modern science.

On the other side stands the CPI(M) government of Kerala, which, along with the Travancore Devaswom Board, plans to host a Global Ayyappa Conclave. The DMK government in Tamil Nadu has accepted the invitation to participate in this state-sponsored religious event. Political observers see the move as a strategy to stem the drift of the Hindu voters towards the BJP.

Here, the Communist and DMK governments expose their own hypocrisy. Rationality, which they claim as a core belief, is in divergence with the practice of promoting religious conclaves. This makes them pseudo-rationalists, eroding the very significance of rationalism.

However, political parties are not alone in trivialising rationalism. Another group—self-styled, card-carrying rationalists—narrows it down to little more than miracle-busting. Their activities are mostly limited to:

a) Public shows where they debunk "godmen" like Sai Baba, explaining that the ash, rings, or necklaces produced in rituals are simple sleights of hand. These are indeed cheap tricks, but exposing them hardly exhausts the scope of rationalism.

b) Sermonising on Article 51A(h) of the Constitution, which urges citizens to cultivate scientific temper, humanism and a spirit of enquiry and reform. While this Article is vital, invoking it without deeper engagement reduces rationalism to a ritualistic citation.

What they fail to address is the philosophical dimension of rationalism. A serious discussion, for example, must begin with questions like, 'What is rationalism?' 'Who were the rationalists in classical Indian philosophical literature?' Schools such as the *Sankhyas*, the *Mimamsakas* and the *Lokayatas* openly questioned the existence of god and the very idea of godhood, offering rational arguments. Yet neither the revivalists nor the rationalists bring these traditions into conversation.

Equally absent are attempts to clarify concepts like magic, miracle, supernatural, god, or causation. Without addressing these concepts, the public's understanding of rationality remains unclear and incomplete.

Consider the notion of scientific temper. Rationalists could trace its origins and meaning. Bertrand Russell, in his 1922 Conway Memorial Lecture, described science as requiring a "critical undogmatic receptiveness"—an openness to revision in light of new evidence. That essentially is critical thinking. Jawaharlal Nehru later popularised the expression and gave his explanation in *The Discovery of India*, emphasising the role of evidence in the pursuit of truth. A discussion along these lines can bring out the difference between science and superstition. Their miracle-exposing activities can then be related to such discussions.

Lacking this depth, most rationalists in India end up, at best, as activists against blind belief in the supernatural and miracle mongering. Their work in combating superstition rooted in ignorance cannot be dismissed. But when they label believers of the irrational as un-thinkers lacking discrimination and thus portray them as objects of ridicule, their discourse collapses into empty showmanship. With no substance to back their views, they end up being sassy in the forums they have created. This sort of superficial engagement makes the Indian rationalist intellectually worn out.

Even when substantive discussions do occur, they are few and far between. It is mostly the card-carrying rationalists who seem to represent rationalism, often for visibility rather than to enrich public understanding. It is this lack of substance that makes it easy for forging a convergence of science and mythology and enabling the divergence of principle and practice.

(The writer formerly taught philosophy in the Department of Humanities and Social Science, IISER, Mohali)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 1975

Directive on MISA arrests

New Delhi, Sept. 15
The Centre has directed all State Governments and Union Territories to ensure that detention orders made by them "actually related to the requirements of emergency." If a detenu's activities are now within the purview of Sub- Section (I) of Section 3 of the Maintence of International Security Act, the authorities concerned have been advised to take corrective action. The activities in this section relate to the maintenance of public order and supplies and services essential to the community.

25 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 2000

The greatest show on earth begins

Sydney, Sept 15
Underlining their desire to return to their roots and rediscover their populace, Australia today ushered in the games of the new millennium in a spectacular show of vigour and vitality at the Olympic Stadium. Fire and water, earth and sky, it was about the elements and the island continent's closeness to nature. It was also about their history and a new look at the past. The four-hour spectacle was the perfect presentation of what Australia stood for.

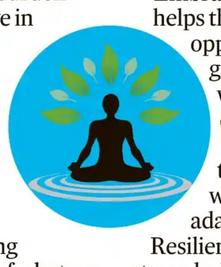
OASIS | ANUPAMA K MALAGI

The art of letting go

'Letting go doesn't mean that you don't care for someone anymore. It is just realising that the only person you really have control over is yourself.' Deborah Reber

In the hustle and bustle of our life, we often believe that remembering the past, the moments that give us joy, leads to happiness. No doubt memories play a significant role in shaping our lives, but a counter-intuitive perception is that the ability to forget certain experiences can surely contribute to a state of happiness.

Being quick to forget is actually the happiest, because letting go of the past can unlock new-found contentment. Being able to let go allows the individuals to get rid of the burden of negative memories, to live in the present, and to let go of regrets, thereby leading to emotional stability.



The art of letting go is not about forgetting or dismissing the unpleasant experience that life throws at us, but about accepting reality with grace and freeing ourselves from the burden of what we cannot change. It is an inner strength that allows us to release control, embrace uncertainty, and trust the unfolding of life.

Embracing the art of letting go helps the individuals to create opportunities for personal growth, resilience, emotional wellbeing and new-found contentment in life.

Resilience grows out of this practice. By letting go, we make space for renewal, adaptability, and self-discovery. Resilience is not the absence of struggle, but the ability to rise each time we stumble—stronger, wiser, and more grounded.

Together, letting go and resilience form a powerful synergy: one teaches us to loosen our grip on what holds us back, while the other equips us to rebuild, realign, and move forward with courage.

Mastering this balance transforms challenges into stepping stones and endings into beginnings, allowing us to live with clarity, peace, and purpose.

So, in letting go of the past lies the key to happiness and growth. To quote Daphne Rose Kingma, "Holding on is believing that there is only a past; letting go is knowing that there is a future."

PROPERTY AND CHARITY: Court upholds mandatory registration under amended Act

SC prima facie upholds deletion of 'waqf by user'

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday prima facie found no fault with the provision in the Waqf Amendment Act, 2025, which mandates that property permanently dedicated as waqf must be owned by the person making the dedication.

The court also rejected arguments opposing the removal of the contentious 'waqf by user' concept from the amended law, aimed at curbing encroachments on government land. It also prima facie upheld the provision mandating registration in all cases.

Under the 1995 law, "waqf by user" allowed a property to be recognised as a religious or charitable endowment if it had been used for such purposes over a long period, even without a formal deed from the owner

A bench of Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih referred to the Treatise 'Principles of Mahomedan Law (20th Edition)' by Mulla to point out that only an "owner" of a property can create a waqf.

Further, the court noted, from the Key Quranic Verses, specifically by Surah Al Baqarah, it can be seen that the very concept of creation of waqf is based on charity, i.e., to spend one's own wealth in the way of Allah.

In any case, for charity to be valid, it must involve property or money owned by the person doing it. One cannot perform charity using property or funds belonging to a third party or the government. "In that view, we are of the prima facie opinion that such a requirement cannot be considered arbitrary," the bench observed.

The petitioners argued that 'waqf by user' is a concept recognised under Muslim law, and its deletion from the amended Act is arbitrary.

Responding to this, the SC noted that since 1923, all waqf-related enactments have included a requirement for registration.

"We are, therefore, of the view that if Mutawallis could not register the waqf for a period of 102 years, as required under earlier provisions, they cannot now claim the right to continue with the waqf without registration," the court said.

The petitioners also contended that in many cases, there would be no waqf deeds available.

"If for 30 long years, the Mutawallis had chosen not to make an application for registration, they cannot be heard to say that the provision which now requires the application to be accompanied by a copy of the waqf deed is arbitrary," the SC said.

Further, if the legislature, on noticing misuse of waqf properties, finds that after the enactment of the 2025 Act, all such applications should be accompanied by a copy of the waqf deed, the same cannot be said to be arbitrary.

"We are also of the view that if the legislature, in 2025, finds that on account of the concept of 'waqf by user', huge government properties have been encroached upon and to stop the said menace, it takes steps for deletion of the said provision, the said amendment cannot be said to be arbitrary."

The court cited the instance of the Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board, which had notified thousands of acres of land belonging to the government as waqf property.

From bill to bench: The waqf law journey

- **APRIL 3:** Lok Sabha passes Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- **APRIL 4:** Rajya Sabha clears Bill.
- **APRIL 5:** President gives assent. AAP's Amanatullah Khan, others move SC.
- **APRIL 17:** SC terms case In Re: Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025; asks Centre to file stand after govt assures no denotification of 'waqf by user/deed' properties.
- **APRIL 25:** Centre seeks dismissal, opposes blanket stay.

- **APRIL 29:** SC refuses to entertain fresh pleas against the law.
- **MAY 5:** CJI Khanna says matter to be heard by Justice B R Gavai from May 15.
- **MAY 15:** CJI Gavai lists pleas for interim relief hearing on May 20.
- **MAY 20–22:** SC hears pleas, reserves order.
- **SEPT 15:** SC stays key provisions but declines full stay, citing "presumption of constitutionality."

Treating it as non-waqf before inquiry is arbitrary

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court said that a provision in the Waqf Amendment Act, 2025 — designating a senior officer above the rank of Collector to determine whether a property is government-owned and to submit a report — cannot, prima facie, be considered arbitrary.

"However, at the same time, the proviso to sub-section (2) thereof is, at least prima facie, not sustainable in law."

The court held that a provision which states that a property cannot be treated as waqf even before an inquiry is conducted by the designated officer, and before the officer submits a report to the government on whether the property is government-owned, is, prima facie, arbitrary.

Courts should be slow in staying legal provisions

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday said courts should be very slow in granting interim relief by way of staying the provisions of an enactment.

In its judgment on pleas for staying the Waqf Amendment Act, a bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih said interim relief of such a nature could be granted in rare and exceptional cases.

The court said such a stay could be granted where parties were in a position to point out that either the legislature that enacted the law lacked legislative competence or the provisions were ex-facie in violation of any of the provisions in Part III of the Constitution or constitutional principles, or was manifestly arbitrary.

New provision on protected monuments upheld

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday rejected an argument against the provision in the Waqf Amendment Act, which declares protected monuments or areas as Waqf to be void, on the ground that people practising Islam would be deprived of performing their religious practices.

A bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih referred to Section 5(6) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, which permits citizens to continue their customary religious practices even if an area is a protected monument.

The argument against it "does not hold water", said the bench.

Faith, property & law: Navigating contentious provisions

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court rejected the plea for a stay on the implementation of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, relying on the principles laid down for granting interim relief on a law passed by the legislature, which can be done only in "rare and exceptional cases".

To stay a statute, the SC said, the petitioners have to prove that either the "legislature which enacted the law lacks legislative competence" or the provisions of enactment are violative of constitutional principles or fundamental rights.

The apex court, in its order, has also not stayed another contentious provision of the 2025 Act: waqf by user. As per the Waqf Act of 1995, a property, in the absence of a legal deed, can be recognised as a waqf if it has been consistently used for a long period of time for religious or pious purposes.

"We are also of the view that if the legislature, in 2025, finds that on account of the concept of 'waqf by user', huge government properties have been encroached upon and to stop the said menace, it takes steps for deletion of the said provision, the said amendment, prima facie, cannot be said to be arbitrary," the court said.

The apex court, however, stayed the implementation of certain provisions of the law passed by the Narendra Modi government.

Section 3 of the Act specified that a waqf or a Muslim endowment can be created only by a person who is "showing or demonstrating that he is practising Islam for five years".

The SC has stayed the implementation of this provision till the state government frames rules and a mechanism to determine whether a person has been practising Islam for at least five years or not".

3 sub-sections stayed

The court has also stayed three sub-sections of Section 3 that dealt with the wrongful declaration of a government property as waqf.

The SC directed that unless the title of such a property is finally decided by the waqf tribunal and the high court, as the case may be, neither the waqfs will be dispossessed of the property nor the entry in the revenue record will be affected.

The petitioners had opposed the inclusion of non-Muslims in waqf boards and the Central Waqf Council, which they argued was a violation of their right to manage their own religious affairs.

While the Centre argued that the number of non-Muslims would be limited, the SC, to avoid ambiguity, issued a specific direction. It ordered that the Central Waqf Council, which has 22 members, shall not consist of more than four non-Muslim members.

Similarly, it directed that State Waqf Boards, with 11 members, shall not have more than three non-Muslim members.

The court also directed that the Central Waqf Council should not consist of more than four non-Muslim members and the Waqf Boards should not have more than three non-Muslim members.

Muslim bodies welcome partial relief

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Prominent Muslim clerics hailed the Supreme Court's ruling putting on hold certain key provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Member of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) Maulana Khalid Rashid Firangimahali said Muslims had sought a stay on the entire law, but the apex court had stayed some provisions of the Act.

"We welcome the stay on some key provisions of the Act and hope that the final decision will provide us more relief," he said.

Wider concerns

AIMPLB spokesperson SQR Ilyas said while the court has granted partial relief, it has not addressed the wider concerns.

The community and the Muslim Personal Law Board had expected a stay on all clauses that contradict the fundamental provisions of the Constitution, he said in New Delhi.

"Many crucial provisions, which on the face of it end in the understanding of the community at large, are completely arbitrary; they have not been stayed. The final decision is yet to come, but the way in which prejudiced manner the government functionaries work, the community feels that those provisions not stayed at this stage shall be abused," Ilyas said.

All India Shia Personal Law Board general secretary Maulana Yasoob Abbas also hailed the ruling and said that the Bill was brought in 'haste' by the government, which gave rise to apprehensions in the minds of the Muslim community.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav also welcomed the ruling and said his party was of the view that there should be no intervention in the waqf law by the government.

(With inputs from New Delhi)

Tight slap on govt's face: Oppn

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

CONGRESS

"It (order) goes a long way towards undoing the mischievous intentions underlying the original statute. We welcome this order as a win for the constitutional values of justice, equality, and fraternity

BJP

"The Supreme Court's decision on Waqf (Amendment) Act sends out a clear message to those who were playing politics of fear and building a negative narrative that the government's act was constitutionally correct

The Opposition on Monday described the Supreme Court's order staying key provisions of the "blatantly problematic" new Waqf law as a "tight slap on the face" of the Modi government, and said the ruling party could have avoided the embarrassment if it had heeded their advice.

Welcoming the order, though it did not suspend the entire law, Opposition parties said it was a "win for the Constitutional values of justice, equality and fraternity" and demanded that the legislation be repealed, urging the government to take the "right lessons" from the verdict.

'Very good sign'

The Centre also welcomed the decision. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said it was a "very good sign" for democracy. "The provisions are beneficial to the entire Muslim community... The misuse, including encroachment of property through Waqf Board, will now be stopped... The SC was aware of the whole issue," he told reporters in Mumbai.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the court had reaffirmed its resolve to protect the rights of minorities — a cause for which the Opposition stood united against the Modi government.

"The BJP had sought to bulldoze a divisive law, designed solely to inflame communal passions and reopen issues that India had long settled," Kharge said, adding that the ruling party thrived on "dividing society for narrow electoral gains."

CPI(M) general secretary M A Baby also welcomed the order. Senior Samajwadi Party MP Rajeev Rai said, "This law was brought for a specific intention, which was wrong and unjust. Everyone should trust the court that final verdict will provide justice to everyone."

Congress general secretary (Organisation) K.C. Venugopal said the order on the Waqf (Amendment) Act was a "vindication" of their stand that the law is "blatantly unconstitutional and designed to target a particular community."

The SC has stayed provisions stating that only those practising Islam for the last five years can dedicate property as Waqf; granting district collectors powers to decide Waqf disputes; and restricting the number of non-Muslims in central and state Waqf bodies. It also held that chief executives of Waqf Boards should be Muslims "as far as possible."

"This verdict is yet another tight slap on the face of this government that is solely focused on destroying the Constitution," Venugopal added.

Nitish regrets 'blunders', promises Modi he won't switch sides again

PM's ninth visit to poll-bound state this year; avoids CM declaration

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Purnea on Monday. PTI

With barely a fortnight left before the Election Commission announces the poll schedule in Bihar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made his ninth visit to the election-bound state this year, launching projects worth Rs 36,000 crore.

This was also Modi's 55th visit to Bihar as PM — the highest by any PM to date — during which he unveiled initiatives in civil aviation, health and energy, including the inauguration of the newly-constructed Purnea airport.

Modi, who has consistently refrained from naming Nitish Kumar as the NDA's chief ministerial candidate should the alliance return to power, saw Nitish pledging his unwavering loyalty to him.

"The mistakes I made earlier by switching sides were blunders. But I assure you, Modi ji, I won't jump ship anymore," said Nitish, folding his hands in a gesture of respect.

But the pledge of loyalty did not prompt Modi to name Nitish as the CM candidate, though the PM did commend the Bihar CM for accelerating the state's development.

"The double-engine NDA government has ensured rapid growth in Bihar. I'm sure the Congress leader (in an apparent reference to Rahul Gandhi) may not have even heard of the term makhana (fox nut) before I established the Makhana Board this year," Modi said while addressing the gathering in Purnea.

Notably, Rahul, during his recent 'Voter Adhikar Yatra', made a brief stopover to interact with makhana farmers, a video of which quickly went viral.

Demography Mission

"My focus also includes the Demography Mission. All those who have illegally settled here from Bangladesh or Nepal will have to leave the country; we cannot allow illegal immigrants to reside here and take away jobs meant for locals," said Modi, as the crowd cheered.

"Purnea airport is now the fourth aerodrome in Bihar, along with Patna, Gaya and Darbhanga, from where flights will operate to various states, enhancing connectivity," Modi added, reiterating that Bihar's rapid development is essential for India's overall growth.

Union ministers Chirag Paswan and Jitan Ram Manjhi, the two warring NDA allies, were also present on the occasion and, surprisingly, showed no signs of bitterness over seat-sharing.

Socialism can't be implemented via dictatorship: Historian Habib

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Emphasising that socialism should not be imposed through dictatorship, eminent historian Irfan Habib on Monday said one should propagate not only socialism but also "full democracy" in today's India.

Delivering the first Sitaram Yechury Memorial Lecture here, Habib said both socialism and democracy are "priceless values", and it was a "fallacy" that socialism could be implemented through dictatorship.

On "The Left in the National Movement", he said Communists were wrong to equate the Congress and the Muslim League, and that they should review this.

"The Congress had a socialist programme. The Muslim League has no such thing... (It) was a communal outfit. The Congress was a national party, not a Hindu organisation," he said.

Palaniswami to meet Shah today

CHENNAI, DHNS: Amid a visible strain in the ties between the two parties, AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami will on Tuesday meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi. This is the first time that Palaniswami and Shah will meet after they jointly announced the revival of the AIADMK-BJP alliance for the 2026 Assembly polls in April this year.

Edappadi K Palaniswami

Amit Shah

During the meeting, EPS is expected to convey his displeasure to Shah over the BJP entertaining the calls for unification of the AIADMK, especially the preference given to leader K A Sengottaiyan after he was stripped of his party posts for setting a deadline for the leadership on bringing back expelled leaders.

Last week, Shah embarrassed Palaniswami by hosting Sengottaiyan, causing yet another strain in the AIADMK-BJP relationship. EPS is opposed to inducting expelled leaders such as V K Sasikala, O Panneerselvam, and T T V Dhinakaran into the party. However, the calls to take them back have been growing in the past few weeks.

The former chief minister also set the stage for his meeting with Shah on Monday evening when he told reporters in Chennai before leaving for New Delhi that there was no question of inducting leaders who either left the party or were expelled from it.

"I am very clear on this. The AIADMK is united," Palaniswami added.

COOLING CRISIS

India's residential AC boom comes with Rs 7,000-cr climate cost

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Refilling of climate-warming refrigerants in residential ACs, either due to leakage or faulty servicing, costs Indian consumers Rs 7,000 crore annually besides damaging the climate extensively, a new survey on residential air-conditioners said on Monday, noting that ACs will become the biggest greenhouse gas-emitting appliances by 2030.

Carried out in 3,100 households across seven cities, the survey says 40% of the residential ACs are refilled annually and emissions resulting from the refilling gas have crossed 50 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2024 alone.

India's ACs used an estimated 32 million kg (32,000 tonnes) of refrigerant refills in 2024, which is expected to increase with AC stock to 125,000 tonnes by 2035.

"The sale of room ACs has been growing exponentially since 2020. In the next ten years, the number of ACs will triple to 245 million. But are we operating and maintaining our ACs to reduce their environmental impacts?" asked Chandra Bhushan, chief executive officer of iFOREST (International Forum for Environment, Sustainability & Technology).

To find out the answer, the think tank launched a survey that was conducted in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Pune, Ahmedabad and Jaipur among high, middle and low income groups.

The results – released ahead of World Ozone Day – show India's residential AC market is growing rapidly, fueled by urbanisation, rising incomes, and intensifying heat stress. Around 80% of households have ACs less than five years old, and 40% of them are less than two years old.

It also shows air-conditioning is no longer a privilege of the rich, as ACs have become essential appliances for the middle class. Of the households owning AC, nearly 87% own just 1 AC, while 13% own over 2. Annual average usage per day is about 4 hours but in the summers, it becomes almost 8 hours.

Church vs Sangh: Article stirs row ahead of Kerala polls

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The BJP's attempts to make inroads into the Christian vote banks of Kerala appear to have suffered yet another setback, following strong criticism from the Catholic Church in response to an article by a Sangh Parivar leader. The article, published in the RSS mouthpiece *Kesari*, accused the Christian community of religious conversions.

An editorial in the Malayalam daily *Deepika*, the official mouthpiece of the Catholic Church in Kerala, on Monday strongly condemned the allegations made in the article by Hindu Aikya Vedi state vice president ES Biju, titled *Aagola Mathaparivarthanathinte Nalvazhikal* ('The Timeline of Global Religious Conversion').

"The Sangh Parivar leader's article exposes the intentions to amend the Constitution by blaming the Christian community. In Kerala, the BJP tries to place one hand around the shoulders of Christians, while those who are either unaware or willfully blind to where the other hand rests may continue with their dreams of a theocratic state and Manusmriti. The BJP, which sees Christians as equal citizens only in Kerala, may or may not respond to these communal campaigns," said the *Deepika* editorial.

Constitutional validity

The editorial also said that the constitutional validity of the anti-conversion laws being introduced by the BJP, targeting minority communities, must be questioned.

The editorial also accused the Hindu Aikya Vedi leader of attempting to spread baseless allegations of religious conversion against the Christian community, even in connection with the recent attack on nuns in Chhattisgarh. While the article mentions the educational institutions and hospitals run by churches, the Sangh Parivar leader could have asked BJP leaders who send their children to these institutions whether they were ever subjected to religious conversion, it said.

AICC general secretary KC Venugopal also strongly criticised the article published in the RSS mouthpiece. He said that its ulterior motive was to malign the Christian community and called on the BJP to clarify its stance on the issue.

Address caste-based bias on campuses: SC to UGC

Gives regulator 8 weeks to finalise draft rules tackling ragging, harassment in colleges

NEW DELHI, PTI

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the UGC to consider, while framing draft regulations, the suggestions to combat ragging, sexual harassment and discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, disability, among other biases in institutions of higher learning to prevent students suicides.

While asking the University Grants Commission (UGC) to consider the suggestions within two months, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi asked it also consider the views of the mothers of students Rohith Vemula and Payal Tadvi, who allegedly died by suicide after facing caste-based discrimination in their respective campuses.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said the draft regulations were published and an expert committee examined over 300 objections that were received.

"The expert committee after examining the objections has asked the UGC to make certain amendments in draft regulations. The UGC is currently examining those recommendations of the expert committee," he said.

Senior advocate Indira Jaising, appearing for the mothers, said all they wanted was the UGC considering their suggestions to avoid any more loss of lives.

The suggestions recorded by the bench include prohibition of discriminatory practices, non-segregation measures like higher educational institutions being prohibited from allocating hostels, classrooms, or practical/laboratory batches based on entrance rank or academic performance and prohibition of public display of merit lists or rank-based segregation within the campus and disallowing rank-based "buddy systems" for academic support, which often exclude students from marginalised backgrounds.

The suggestions also include scholarship disbursal which include delay in disbursal of scholarship and fellowship for SC, ST, and OBC students should not be used to harass them by higher educational institutions, internal grievance redressal, protection of complaints, personal liability for negligence, mental health counselling, guidelines on caste discrimination, internal assessment besides other suggestions. The top court directed the UGC to consider the suggestions within eight weeks.

On April 24, the court allowed UGC to notify the draft regulations 2025 which deal with ragging, sexual harassment and discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, disability, among other biases in institutions of higher learning.

While Vemula, a PhD scholar at Hyderabad Central University died on January 17, 2016, Tadvi, a student at TN Topiwala National Medical College, died on May 22, 2019, after she was subjected to purported discrimination by three doctors in her college.

Aadhaar must for online train ticket booking in first 15 minutes

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

From October 1, only people who have been authenticated using Aadhaar will be able to book reserved general tickets online during the first 15 minutes of opening of online general reservation on the IRCTC website and app, the railways said on Monday.

At present, this curb applies only to Tatkal bookings.

"With a view to ensure that the benefits of the reservation system reach the common end user and are not misused by unscrupulous elements, it has been decided that with effect from 1.10.2025, during the first 15 minutes of opening of general reservation, reserved general tickets can be booked through the website of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation/its app only by Aadhaar authenticated users," a ministry circular said.

The railway officials said that after 15 minutes, authorised ticket agents will be allowed to book online reservations. "There shall, however, be no change in timing for booking of general reserved tickets through computerised PRS counters of Indian Railways," the circular said.

It added, "There shall also be no change in the timing of restriction of 10 minutes of opening of general reservation during which authorised ticketing agents of Indian Railways shall not be allowed to book opening day reserved tickets."

Telangana colleges call off strike after talks with govt

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

The private colleges in Telangana called off their indefinite strike on Monday night after the state government agreed to immediately release Rs 600 crore in fee reimbursement arrears, with another Rs 600 crore promised by Deepavali.

The announcement came following a day-long meeting between government representatives and the Federation of Associations of Telangana Higher Institutions (FATHI).

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka announced the outcome, prompting college managements to withdraw the strike that had begun earlier in the day. More than 1,000 private colleges across Telangana remained closed on Monday, affecting approximately 14 lakh students.

FATHI had decided to launch the strike following its general body meeting on Sunday, protesting significant delays in releasing approximately Rs 7,500 crore in dues under the government's Fee Reimbursement Scheme. Some payments have been pending for as long as five years, creating severe financial strain on educational institutions.

The prolonged delay in payments has left faculty and staff across institutions without salaries for several months, according to the colleges.

Students have also faced academic disruptions as institutions struggle to function under these severe financial constraints. The government has cited resource limitations, stating that available funds are being utilized to pay government staff salaries and support newly introduced government schemes.

"Faculty and staff across institutions have been suffering without salaries for several months. Families are unable to meet their basic needs, and with the Dussehra season approaching, the distress has reached unbearable levels," said FATHI Chairman N Ramesh Babu.

The federation had designated September 15, Engineer's Day, as "Black Day" across state to highlight their grievances.

Delhi BMW accident: Despite pleas, accused took victims to hospital 19 km away

NEW DELHI, PTI: The wife of the senior government official killed in a collision between their motorcycle and a luxury car near the Delhi Cantonment Metro station had repeatedly pleaded with the accused couple to get them admitted to a nearby hospital, but to no avail, according to the FIR lodged in the case.

Deputy Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Navjot Singh (52) was killed in the accident on Sunday afternoon. His wife Sandeep Kaur sustained serious injuries.

In her statement to police, Sandeep said, "I was constantly requesting them to take us to the nearest hospital, as my husband was unconscious and needed immediate treatment."

"Instead, the lady took us to a small hospital in GTB Nagar, far from the accident site," the bereaved woman told police in a statement.

Meanwhile, police sources said the hospital where the victim was taken was linked to Gaganpreet Kaur. "So far, we have learned that the hospital, which is almost 19 kilometres away from the accident site, is linked to the accused. We are checking and verifying all the facts," said sources.

Van driver Mohammad Gulfam, who rushed all four injured people to the hospital, has also made a similar claim.

Gaganpreet Kaur, who was allegedly driving the BMW car, and her husband were also injured in the incident.

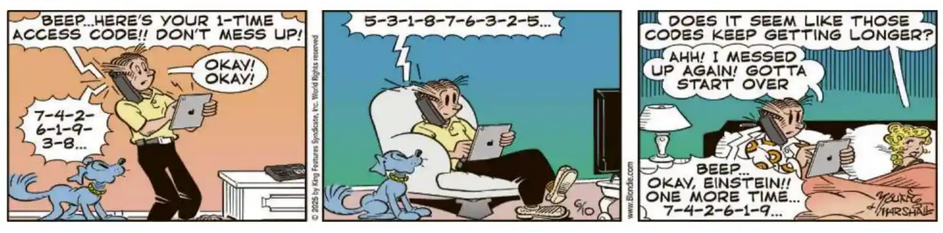
A Delhi court sent Gaganpreet to two days of judicial custody. The judge also issued notices to Delhi Police and the victim's kin on the bail application moved by Gaganpreet.

She has been arrested on culpable homicide not amounting to murder and other charges.

MISCELLANY

◆COMICS◆

Blondie


BEEP...HERE'S YOUR 1-TIME ACCESS CODE!! DON'T MESS UP!
OKAY! OKAY!
7-4-2-6-1-9-3-8...
5-3-1-8-7-6-3-2-5...
DOES IT SEEM LIKE THOSE CODES KEEP GETTING LONGER?
AHH! I MESSED UP AGAIN! GOTTA START OVER
BEEP... OKAY, EINSTEIN!! ONE MORE TIME... 7-4-2-6-1-9...

Hagar The Horrible

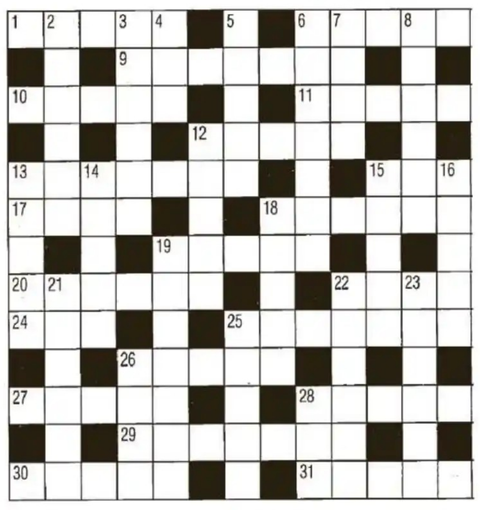
Beetle Bailey

HOW WAS GOLF, SIR?
THE CART BROKE DOWN AND WE WERE STRANDED FOR AN HOUR
I'M SORRY
IT'S OKAY, THE BEVERAGE CART KEPT COMING AROUND

Peanuts

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12247



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 The perfect one to give a handout? (5)
6 Outer path? (5)
9 In a way, it's nothing for me to appear in a show (7)
10 An issue of some description (5)
11 Amiable beginner in the group (5)
12 Mistakes due to which Bob's out for a duck (5)
13 A foreigner figures in the argument (7)
15 Nothing less than senile (3)
17 She's apt to open up in the dark (4)
18 Quietly step up for a laudation (6)
19 Make things easier for everybody on reduced pay (5)
20 Inner London group? (6)
22 In backward times, housing's halved! (4)
24 Weed killer (3)
25 Unusual tests on a hat (7)
26 Battle cry going round part of London (5)
27 One knocked out with a club? (5)
28 Came up in the writings of Gertrude Stein (5)
29 A lordly list (7)
30 Attached to weeds, possibly? (5)
31 Name of a female crocodile? (5)

ACROSS
1 With reference to (2,3)
6 Cut of beef (5)
9 Liked by many (7)
10 Lose blood (5)
11 Car style (5)
12 Number (5)
13 Trade ban (7)
15 Person's residence (3)
17 Broadcasts (4)
18 Clothes, garments (6)
19 Evidence of crying (5)
20 Usher (6)
22 Settee (4)
24 Prosecute (3)
25 School prefect (7)
26 Italian city (5)
27 Scope or extent (5)
28 Malice (5)
29 Causing laughter (7)
30 Command (5)
31 Pine (5)

DOWN
2 Highly-spiced sausage (6)
3 Musical dramas (6)
4 Stick or shaft (3)
5 Of sound or hearing (5)
6 Shampoo pouches (7)
7 Horse's gait (4)
8 Seem, look (6)
12 Wading bird (5)
13 Edges of a roof (5)
14 Boy's name (5)
15 Fulcrum (5)
16 Exclude (5)
18 Gaseous element (5)
19 Judas (7)
21 Hot season (6)
22 Easy (6)
23 Bring up (6)
25 Sorcery (5)
26 Small rodents (4)
28 Speak (3)

DOWN
2 Medico with a way in and out of court? (6)
3 A team's remarks to the audience? (6)
4 Cut short during a critical operation (3)
5 Fish them up some wine! (5)
6 It's a question of taking things badly (7)
7 Can they be slow in flight? (4)
8 A sport that has its rackets (6)
12 A good long read (5)
13 Steal a little seed? (5)
14 Quantity corrected in filtering? (5)
15 Figures ways to get to the New Inn (5)
16 You'll admit Len's got it wrong! (3,2)
18 At the end of the day, not all fun? (5)
19 Warned that there may be a later edition (7)
21 A useful element when you eat after ten (6)
22 Being kept for some time, strode around restlessly (6)
23 A code letter won't get you much to eat? (6)
25 Hit a boundary, perhaps, with a cut (5)
26 Having a key, Bobby can manage (4)
28 In the past, less than a paragon (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12246

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 3, SW-eat 8, Pit-h-y 10, Cedar 11,Tor 12, B-e.g.-un 13, Crouton 15, Momma 18, Sea 19, Serial 21, Station 22, Rats 23, Stir 24, Da-home-y 26, SW-Eden 29, Mar 31, Shrub 32, Bonfire 34, Can-on 35, Dry 36, Fleas 37, Poesy 38, Letts.
DOWN: 1, Mitre 2,Thrusts 4, W-H-en 5, Acu-men 6,Tenor (ten- ner) 7, H-Alma 9,To-O 12, B-O-atman 14,Tea 16, Misty 17, Al-arm 19, Solo-Mon. 20, Brass 21, St-e'er 23, Serfdom 24, Debase 25, Man 27, W-hol-e 28, Ducal 30,Tryst 32, Bolt 33, Ire.

EASY
ACROSS: 3, Chess 8,Talon 10, Ethos 11, Yes 12,Taste 13, Lateral 15,Tepee 18, Gin 19, Cerise 21, Rapture 22, Ploy 23, Gobi 24, Mug shot 26, Esteem 29, Sou 31, Sweat 32, Retreat 34, Genus 35, Mat 36, Cello 37, Merit 38, Erase.
DOWN: 1, Kayak 2, Nosegay 4, Heal 5, Settee 6, Steer 7, Poses 9, Let 12,Tantrum 14, Rip 16, Pilot 17, Eerie 19, Crosses 20, Spies 21, Route 23, Gourmet 24, Meteor 25, Hot 27, Sweet 28, Eagle 30, Latin 32, Rues 33, Ear.

◆SU-DO-KU-6702◆

8			9				1	
		1		7		8	5	
2			5	1		3	6	
	1			2			9	6
7			3		6			8
4	5			9			2	
	7	9		6	3			4
	2	4		8		6		
	8				5			1

easy

SOLUTION TO 6701

7	5	4	3	8	2	6	9	1
2	8	6	7	1	9	5	3	4
1	9	3	6	4	5	2	8	7
9	4	5	1	6	8	3	7	2
3	1	2	5	9	7	4	6	8
6	7	8	2	3	4	9	1	5
4	3	7	9	5	1	8	2	6
5	6	1	8	2	3	7	4	9
8	2	9	4	7	6	1	5	3

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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							Triple Word Score	RACK 1
O1	T1	R1	U1	D2	N1	A1		
							1st Letter Double	RACK 2
F4	E1	T1	G2	I1	I1	D2		
								RACK 3
L1	M3	B3	S1	L1	O1	O1		
							Double Word Score	RACK 4
T1	B3	O1	N1	G2	T1	E1		

PAR SCORE 115-125
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

P3	A1	L1	T1	R1	Y4		RACK 1	= 22
A1	B3	R1	E1	A1	S1	T1	RACK 2	= 59
C3	H4	I1	P3	S1			RACK 3	= 20
L1	E1	A1	T1	H4	E1	R1	RACK 4	= 80
V4	A1	R1	I1	O1	U1	S1	RACK 5	= 60

PAR SCORE 155-165 JUDD'S TOTAL 241

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SFYUS

RNGTA

NYISNK

ETRRIW

My parents can't wait to travel to Hawaii.
Alaska has wilderness as far as the eye can see!
That's where I want to go!
3/10
IN 1960, THE U.S. FLAG WAS CHANGED BECAUSE ALASKA AND HAWAII WERE ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Play-Jumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WRING SLIMY FUTILE TOASTY
Answer: For the eagle that had another birthday coming up, it seemed like — TIME WAS FLYING

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HITORI-3156

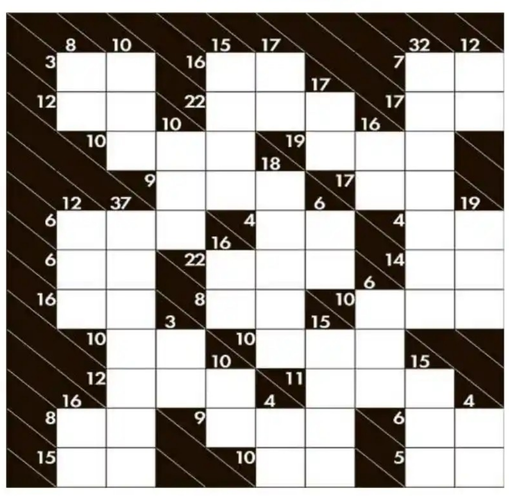
2	4	6	7	8	6	5	3
5	6	4	7	1	7	8	7
4	5	2	3	2	1	6	7
6	7	3	7	4	7	7	2
8	1	7	5	6	3	2	5
3	7	8	1	7	5	7	6
2	2	4	4	3	8	7	5
5	3	7	7	2	4	7	8

SOLUTION TO 3155

■	6	7	1	■	4	■	8
2	7	■	5	1	3	8	4
7	■	6	4	3	■	5	1
■	3	8	■	7	1	6	■
3	5	1	2	■	7	4	6
1	■	4	■	5	2	■	7
■	8	■	7	6	■	2	5
5	1	3	8	4	6	■	2

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

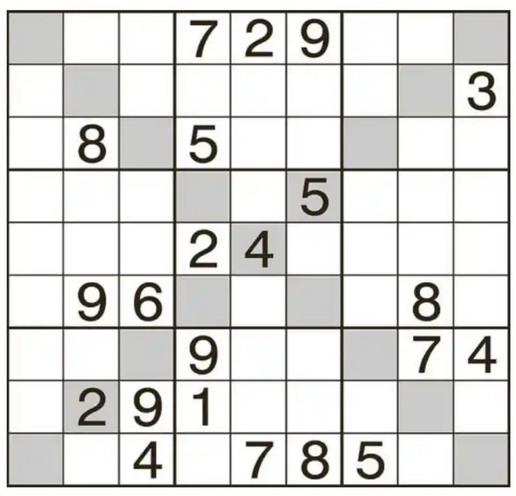
KAKURO- 3156



SOLUTION TO 3155

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3678



SOLUTION TO 3677

2	6	7	9	5	3	1	4	8
1	4	9	8	6	2	5	3	7
3	8	5	7	4	1	6	9	2
8	7	2	3	1	4	9	5	6
6	5	4	2	9	7	8	1	3
9	1	3	5	8	6	2	7	4
5	3	1	4	2	8	7	6	9
4	2	6	1	7	9	3	8	5
7	9	8	6	3	5	4	2	1

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

India, US to resume bilateral trade talks today

'Engagement to bring negotiations back on course'

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India's exports to the United States fell to $6.86 billion in August from $8.01 billion in July according to government data released on Monday.

A delegation of United States officials reached New Delhi on Monday to restart the negotiations for a trade agreement with India, after the recent exchange of positive vibes between President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi brought the relations back from the brink.

The delegation led by Brendan Lynch, the Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia, landed in New Delhi after a visit to Dhaka.

Lynch and other US officials will meet their Indian counterparts on Tuesday to add momentum to the stalled negotiations for the bilateral trade agreement.

Trump's administration sent Lynch and other officials to New Delhi even as his top aides, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, remained engaged in high-level trade talks with China in Madrid.

A source told *DH* that the talks between Indian and American officials would not result in a breakthrough, but would help bring the negotiations back on course.

The negotiations remained stalled for a few weeks as the relations between New Delhi and Washington came under stress, as Trump imposed a 50% tax on all imports from India to the US.

Modi-Trump bonhomie

Modi and Trump wrote on social media platforms on September 10 that they were looking forward to speaking with each other. They also stated that the officials were working to conclude negotiations for a trade deal soon.

Trump's aides — trade advisor Peter Navarro and the Ambassador to Nato Matthew Whitaker— however, continued to slam India for continuing to buy oil from Russia.

The US president also purportedly asked the EU leaders to slap tariffs on India and China to step up pressure on Russia to end the war in Ukraine.

Kuki leader's house torched 2 days after PM's Manipur visit

Youths also tried to storm police station seeking release of two accused

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

Fresh tension prevailed in Manipur's Kuki-dominated Churachandpur district, where "unidentified miscreants" on Monday torched the house of a leader of the Kuki National Organisation (KNO) and tried to set ablaze the houses of two top leaders of the Kuki Zo Council (KZC), an apex body of the Kuki organisations leading the talks with the Centre to find an end to the Meitei-Kuki conflict.

Sources said the house of Calvin Hatlang, the leader of the KNO's "external affairs" wing, at Dorcas Veng near Churachandpur town was burnt in the early hours of Monday, mere days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the state for the first time since the Meitei-Kuki violence started on May 3, 2023.

Miscreants then targeted the houses of KZC chairman Henlianthang Thanglet and council spokesperson Ginza Vualzong, but their plan was thwarted with the intervention of the police and the central security forces, sources said.

The KNO is an umbrella body of several Kuki armed groups that are in a Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement with the Centre.

On September 4, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs extended the SoO agreement with the KNO and United People's Front with revised ground rules.

A group of youths allegedly tried to storm the Churachandpur Police Station while demanding the release of two men arrested on charges of vandalism near the Prime Minister's event on Thursday night.

The two were arrested after some persons vandalised the barricades and posters put up to welcome the PM to Churachandpur. They were granted bail on Sunday.

Sources said those allegedly involved in the vandalism were unhappy with the administration's removal of the symbolic coffins from the "Wall of Remembrance"—a memorial put up by Kuki organisations outside the Peace Ground, where the PM delivered an address.

NH-2 yet to reopen

The Centre's efforts to ensure "free movement" on National Highway (NH)-2 seems to have run into rough weather once again, with the KZC asserting that no free movement on the stretch of the highway passing through Kuki-dominated areas had been "permitted".

"The KZC has not declared the reopening of NH-2. No free movement has been permitted on this route. As there has been no settlement or agreement yet to end the conflict between the Meitei and the Kuki communities, no one from either side must cross the buffer zone under any circumstances," it said in a statement

Kuki organisations have allowed transport of goods on the highway, but are against the "free movement" of Meiteis on a stretch passing through the Kuki-dominated Kangpokpi district.

SC accepts SIT report giving clean chit to Ambani's Vantara

NEW DELHI, DHNS

SUPREME COURT

"See, there are certain things we probably feel are the pride of this country. We should not unnecessarily rake up all these matters and raise hue and cry for the sake of that. Allow certain good things to happen to the country.

The Supreme Court on Monday said the SIT it had constituted reported that authorities were satisfied with compliance and regulatory measures in the procurement of animals at Anant Ambani's 'Vantara' in Jamnagar, Gujarat.

A bench of Justices Pankaj Mithal and P B Varale noted that the special investigation team, headed by former top court judge J Chelameswar, had inquired into the affairs of Vantara and given a clean chit to the zoological rescue and rehabilitation centre.

'No contravention of law'

"The court has no hesitation in accepting the conclusion so drawn in the report. Thus, as no contravention of law has been reported by the SIT, the complaints particularly those listed in Schedule A in the summary of the report stand closed," the bench said.

According to the summary of the report, the acquisition of animals by the centre was carried out in line with regulatory compliance.

"The authorities have expressed satisfaction on the issues of compliance with regulatory measures," the bench said, citing the SIT summary.

The apex court said the periodic inspection by the Central Zoo Authority and the Chief Wildlife Warden of Gujarat, along with assessments by CITES, reinforced the conclusion and the allegations of deficiency in welfare standard were, therefore, unfounded.

"On the so-called allegations of misuse of carbon credits, water resources, or financial impropriety, the SIT has found them to be baseless relying upon responses from agencies like CBI, DRI and ED."

Senior advocate Harish Salve, representing Vantara, said the entire staff had cooperated fully with the committee and everything was shown to them.

He added there was certain proprietary information regarding how the animals were cared for and kept healthy.

"Large monies have been spent with experts to develop this. There is some degree of commercial confidentiality. This facility is of international standard," Salve said.

The bench said it was closing the matter. "We are accepting the report... we are satisfied with the report of the committee," the bench said.

The top court directed Vantara and the authorities concerned to consider and implement the measures suggested by the SIT.

It allowed Vantara to pursue its legal remedies for deletion of any offending publication or for any action against those responsible for the misinformation or for actions for defamation or private complaints under the BNS, 2023.

(With PTI inputs)

PM urges armed forces to achieve 'greater jointness'

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Three months after Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday reviewed the security situation with the top brass of the Indian armed forces and asked them to "swiftly implement concrete steps to achieve greater jointness" among the three services.

At the biennial combined commanders' conference in Kolkata, Modi was briefed on the operational readiness in the context of the new normal created by Operation Sindoor — the 87-hour India-Pakistan conflict in May — and the future of warfare amidst emerging technologies and tactics.

He also reviewed the reforms implemented over the last two years and the plan for the next two years, said the Union Defence Ministry in a statement without revealing what the PM conveyed to the forces.

In line with 2025 being the "Year of Reforms" in defence, he reportedly instructed the Defence Ministry to swiftly implement concrete steps to achieve greater jointness, "aatmanirbharta" (self-reliance), and innovation to meet future challenges and prevail against any eventuality.

Modi also unveiled the "Indian Armed Forces Vision 2047" document.

The three-day apex-level brainstorming of top military leaders at the historic Fort William (now named Vijay Durg) — the headquarters of the Eastern Command of the Indian Army — is also being attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan, the three service chiefs, and other senior officials of the Foreign and Defence Ministries. The last such conference was held in Bhopal in 2023.

While the conference was understood to include discussions on a draft proposal on theaterisation, the Defence Ministry statement didn't disclose any details on whether the issue came up in the PM's address.

The deliberations, according to the ministry, will seek to further strengthen the armed forces in an increasingly complex geo-strategic landscape.

Truck runs over pedestrians in Indore; two killed, 11 hurt

INDORE, PTI: At least two people were killed and 11 others injured on Monday night when an out-of-control truck ran over several pedestrians on Aerodrome Road in Indore, rammed into some vehicles, and caught fire, police said.

The truck driver has been arrested and interrogated.

"Two people have died in the accident, and 11 others are injured. Of them, three to four sustained minor injuries and will be discharged after primary treatment," said a senior police official.

He added that ensuring proper medical care for the injured was the police's immediate priority. Crowds gathered at the accident site and at hospitals and raised slogans against the police and administration.

Protesters alleged that heavy commercial vehicles are not permitted on the busy road and questioned how the truck entered the area despite the deployment of traffic police personnel.

US, China reach framework deal on TikTok ownership

Trump, Xi to confirm TikTok agreement in Friday call

MADRID/WASHINGTON, REUTERS

American and Chinese officials hold trade talks in Madrid, Spain, on Sunday. AFP

The United States and China have reached a framework agreement to switch short-video app TikTok to US-controlled ownership, which will be confirmed in a call between President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday, US officials said.

TikTok had faced being switched off in the US as soon as September 17 if Chinese owner ByteDance did not agree to divest. US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said it was possible the deadline could be extended to allow the deal to be finalised. "We are not going to talk about the commercial terms of the deal. It is between two private parties, but the commercial terms had been agreed," Bessent told reporters at the conclusion of two days of talks in Madrid.

The US-China negotiations at the Spanish foreign ministry's baroque Palacio de Santa Cruz were the fourth round of talks in four months to address strained trade ties as well as TikTok's looming divestiture deadline. Trump praised the TikTok deal on Monday. "The big Trade Meeting in Europe between The United States of America, and China, has gone VERY WELL! It will be concluding shortly," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

"A deal was also reached on a 'certain' company that young people in our Country very much wanted to save. They will be very happy! I will be speaking to President Xi on Friday."

Delegations led by Bessent and Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng have met in European cities since May to try to resolve differences that prompted Trump to raise tariffs on Chinese imports and sparked tit-for-tat measures, including similarly high import duties by China on US goods and a halt in the flow of rare earths to the US.

US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said the TikTok deal was an indication of good faith between the two sides as they continue to discuss other issues such as tariffs and economic policy. "It is no secret that there are serious issues on trade, economics, and national security between the US and China. To be able to come, sit down, quickly identify the issues, narrow them down to a very granular spot, and be able to come to a conclusion, subject to the leaders' approval, I mean, that is remarkable," Greer said.

Russia threatens action against European states seizing assets

MOSCOW, REUTERS: Russia on Monday warned it would go after any European state that sought to take its assets after reports that the European Union is looking for new ways to leverage hundreds of billions of dollars of frozen Russian assets to help Ukraine.

The US and its allies prohibited transactions with the Russian central bank and finance ministry after President Vladimir Putin sent his army into Ukraine in 2022, and blocked $300-$350 billion of sovereign Russian assets, mostly European, US and British government bonds held in a European securities depository.

Reuters reported that European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen wants the European Union to find a new way to finance Ukraine's defence against Russia using the cash balances associated with Russian assets frozen in Europe.

Politico reported that the European Commission is mulling the idea of using Russian cash deposits at the European Central Bank from maturing bonds owned by Russia to fund a "Reparations Loan" for Ukraine.

"If this happens, Russia will pursue the EU states, as well as European degenerates from Brussels and individual EU countries who try to seize our property, until the end of the century," former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev wrote on Telegram. Russia will pursue European states in "all possible ways" and in "all possible international and national courts" as well as "out of court", said Medvedev, who serves as deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council.

Russia says any seizure of its assets amounts to theft by the West and will undermine confidence in the bonds and currencies of the United States and Europe.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A Russian aircraft drops anti-submarine weapons during a joint military drill with its allies in the Barents Sea on Monday. AP/PTI

WTO deal aimed at reducing overfishing takes effect

▸ A World Trade Organisation agreement aimed at reducing overfishing took effect on Monday, requiring countries to reduce subsidies doled out to fishing fleets and aiming to ensure the sustainability of wildlife in the world's seas and oceans, AP/PTI reports from Geneva.

Following a string of national approvals more than three years after its adoption, the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies is designed to help limit the depletion of fish stocks caused by excessive fishing. The deal, championed by WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, formally took effect on Monday after four more countries — Brazil, Kenya, Tonga and Vietnam — adopted it. The approvals mean that as many as 112 countries are on board, clearing by one country the requirement that at least two-thirds of WTO's 166 members give formal acceptance. China, the US, and the EU's 27-member states are among those that have signed on, while India and Indonesia have been among the holdouts.

Pak military kills 31 militants

▸ At least 31 militants belonging to the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) were killed in two separate engagements in northwest Pakistan, PTI reports from Peshawar.

The two separate intelligence-based operations were conducted on September 13 and 14 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Lakki Marwat and Bannu districts, respectively, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) - the media wing of the army - said in a statement. During the first operation, security forces engaged the militants' location, and after an intense fire exchange, 14 terrorists were killed, it said. It added that another operation was carried out in Bannu, where 17 more terrorists were killed in a gun battle. Earlier, the ISPR said the military had killed 45 terrorists between September 10 and 13.

'The Studio', 'Adolescence' shine at Emmys

LOS ANGELES, AFP

Searing teen murder saga "Adolescence" was the big winner at Sunday's Emmy Awards, claiming eight prizes including best limited series, while "The Pitt" prevailed in a tight race for best drama at television's equivalent of the Oscars.

Seth Rogen's Hollywood satire "The Studio" dominated the comedy categories, earning best series honors and an overall total of 13 Emmys -- a record for comedies.

"Adolescence" was arguably 2025's most talked-about TV hit. The British series for Netflix is the grim cautionary tale of a fictional 13-year-old schoolboy arrested on suspicion of murdering a female classmate with a knife. Its examination of toxic masculinity among young boys, and the horrific messages they are exposed to via smartphones and social media, prompted debate around the world.

The series earned a whopping 140 million views in its first three months on Netflix. Each of its four episodes is shot in a single take. "Adolescence" won a total of eight Emmys including best limited series as well as prizes for writing, directing, lead actor, supporting actress and supporting actor. The latter went to 15-year-old Owen Cooper, who became the youngest male actor to win an Emmy. "Honestly, when I started these drama classes a couple years back, I didn't expect to be even in the United States, never mind here," he said.

"The Pitt" won best drama series -- the night's final prize, and arguably its most surprising moment. It is a medical drama reminiscent of "ER," with the twist that all 15 episodes are set consecutively during the same unbearably stressful shift at an inner-city Pittsburgh hospital.

"ER" veteran Noah Wyle won best drama actor for his performance as the emergency room's haunted leader. Katherine LaNasa also won best supporting actress.

Seth Rogen poses with the Best Actor in a Comedy Series and Best Comedy Series awards for "The Studio" in Los Angeles on Sunday. REUTERS

British politicians condemn Musk's remark

LONDON, AP/PTI: Prime Minister Keir Starmer faced calls on Monday to sanction Elon Musk after Tesla owner told an anti-immigration rally that violence is coming to Britain and they must fight or die.

Ed Davey, leader of the Liberal Democrats urged Starmer and Conservative opposition leader Kemi Badenoch to join him in condemning Musk's attempt "to sow discord" and interfere with British democracy.

Equalities Minister Jacqui Smith said Musk's remarks "were wrong and they were dangerous."

Don't say 'yes' when you should say 'no'

MAULLIKA SHARMA

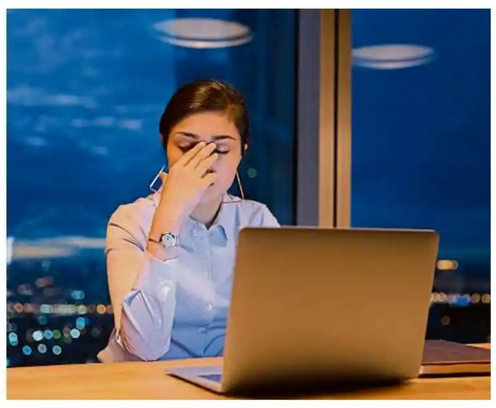
Have you ever found yourself saying "yes" when every part of you wanted to say "no"? Maybe you've felt stretched thin, pulled in multiple directions, wondering why this keeps happening.

Lakshmi* knows this feeling all too well.

Her manager needed a report by the end of the day. A colleague asked for help with his own report, and Lakshmi couldn't say no. A friend called to vent, and she felt she could not say she was busy. Her mother needed groceries ordered online, and Lakshmi felt compelled to do it immediately. By the end of the day, Lakshmi was overwhelmed, stressed, and still hadn't finished her own work.

Why? Because Lakshmi believed that saying "no" would make her seem unhelpful, selfish, or even unlikable.

But here's the truth: if she doesn't prioritise her own needs, who will?



What are healthy boundaries?

Healthy boundaries allow us to say "no" without guilt or fear of rejection. They stem from self-awareness and self-worth—the belief that "I am enough" and "my needs matter."

Boundaries—physical, emotional, intellectual, financial, or sexual—can range from rigid and strict to almost nonexistent. Healthy boundaries fall somewhere in between and help ensure your mental and emotional stability by clarifying what behaviour you will accept from others, and what behaviour others can expect from you. You could have strict boundaries at work and more loose ones in your personal relationships.

Healthy boundaries are a crucial component of self-care, helping people make decisions based on what is best for them, not just the people around them. According to psychologist, Dr. Dana Nelson, "In work or in our personal relationships, poor boundaries lead to resentment, anger, and burnout". So healthy boundaries at work may improve your job satisfaction, reduce your stress, and create room for a better personal life.

How to set healthy boundaries?

Start with examining the boundaries that already exist (or don't) in your life. Lakshmi may decide she has healthy boundaries with her romantic partner, but not with her friends and colleagues. She then needs to consider the types of boundaries she wants to set. And then set them by saying 'no' simply but firmly to something she does not want to do.

She does not need to explain or justify her actions. This is crucial, as everyone has the right to determine what they do and do not want to do. It is important to keep the focus on herself - "I have another deadline and will not be able to help you." There is no need for any guilt here.

So, how do you start on this journey of self-care by being able to establish healthy boundaries for yourself?

- Spend time alone. Reflect. Notice when you feel off-balance. Understand why a boundary matters to you and how it supports your wellbeing.
- Start early. Begin small and build gradually. This helps others understand where you stand and reduces confusion or hurt.
- Be consistent. Consistency builds clarity and trust. It also helps you stay grounded in your values.
- Define your principles. Create broad guidelines. For example, you might reserve an hour of "me time" every morning, free from chores or interruptions.
- Clarify Digital Boundaries. Social media often blurs lines. If you don't want certain photos or information shared, communicate that clearly.
- Communicate openly. If someone repeatedly crosses a boundary, talk to them. It doesn't have to be confrontational, just honest. Share how the boundary helps you and how its violation affects you.
- Champion yourself. Believe you're worthy of protection and care. Engage in activities that boost your self-esteem. Nurture your passions. Make time for what you love.
- Keep perspective. Dr. Quinn-Cirillo, a British psychologist, reminds us: "Not having boundaries can harm your mental health, but overthinking them can too." Trust your instincts. Boundaries should guide you, not confine you. "Have some, but don't be dictated by them. Sometimes you've just got to go with your gut instinct."
- Let go of whatever gets in your way. Letting go of unrealistic expectations allows you to embrace life as it is. It's not about perfection, it's about peace.
- Remember: "No" is a complete sentence.

Lakshmi doesn't need to justify her choices. She can simply say, "I have another deadline and won't be able to help right now." No guilt. No over-explaining.

Setting boundaries isn't selfish—it's self-care.

**Names are fictional.*

(The author is a counsellor and a wellness coach)

The art of teaching in the digital age

Good mentors get their students prepared for the journey of learning better, writes Sujit Kumar Chakrabarti

What should we, as teachers, strive to teach in our lectures? In this age of advancements in Information Technology and generative AI, every teacher must be grappling with this question in some form or another.

In earlier days, if you had the content of the topic in your command and you were reasonably good at explaining it, you had a good chance of passing off as a good teacher. Not anymore.

Students these days have access to an abundance of superlative content through online lectures. As far as the quality of content is concerned, it's not easy to match that of these online courses. Whether most students do indeed diligently absorb that online content is an open question. However, when an average student is deciding whether or not to take an interest in your lecture (often with a bias towards a 'no'), they will most likely compare your content and delivery with those of the best on the Internet. And in such an unfair game, most of us stand little chance.

So, if content is almost impossible to catch the student's attention and interest with, what value can ordinary teachers like us bring to the table? A somewhat blunt variant of the question: What stopped us, human teachers, from becoming irrelevant in the face of Internet and AI content?

Three things set a human teacher apart from anything that technological advancement can offer as of today:

Guidance and mentorship

Students today are very smart and resourceful. Any goal is not too hard to achieve, no destination too distant to reach, for them. However, in this era of information overload, there's a lot of confusion as to what to aim for and where to go. Add to this the natural lack of experience and self-awareness of their age, and the general noisiness of the atmosphere that's constantly trying to dazzle you, numb your judgement, and entice you toward wrong ideals, wrong role models. In such a situation, a guide (who helps in various decisions, not just on academic or professional matters but about matters of general life) is of great value.

Awaken interest and excitement

The only way to awaken excitement about anything is to display it in yourself. Being excited about a subject is often harder than being an expert in it. There are many experts in a field who are not able to communicate their knowledge to others. Excitement doesn't lie in immaculate and rigorous exposition of a topic, but in evoking excitement, suspense, surprise and other human emotions associated with storytelling about an otherwise dry topic. Where applicable, relation to real life and significance also helps. Creating continuity between topics already learned also contributes positively to the interest. Personal anecdotes add a touch of credibility to the narrative.

Personalisation

A teacher who's keenly aware of the specific characteristics of their students is in a far better position to personalise the teaching. This may consider the students' current level of knowledge, intelligence, intellectual capacity and inclination, other interests and ambitions. In a very close teacher-learner relation (e.g. between a PhD scholar and her advisor), even details about personal nature, health (both physical and mental as well), personal situation (e.g. family and economic), etc., can also be very much considered. Even when the cohort is large and such a high degree of personalisation may become infeasible, even then, insights about the general characteristics of the class can be used effectively to generate a personalised experience.

For example, when teaching a large class, I try to keep track of what other courses those students have already done or are currently doing in that semester. Creating connections between my course and those other ones also has subtle positive effects. It demonstrates how various subjects don't exist in isolation but are deeply connected. It is convincing evidence that the teacher is interested and aware of the learning journey of his students over and beyond the boundaries of his own subject. This personalisation is a very human thing, extremely hard to replicate by even the most state-of-the-art AI agent today.

When a teacher who acts as a good mentor to his students; ensures to keep stoking their curiosity and excitement about learning continually through a variety of storytelling methods and develops a personal 'human' connection with his students and uses the same to personalise the teaching/learning method, the students would be far more prepared and capable to take the journey of learning, along with its hardships and perils alike, all by themselves. Such a teacher is guaranteed to stay relevant in the learning story of today's students.

(The author is an associate professor at a Bengaluru-based technology institute)

BULLETIN BOARD

Lead generation internship
Eduvizo Edutech Private Limited is hiring lead generation interns who can work from home. Students with knowledge of social media marketing, lead generation, effective communication, and networking skills are invited to apply by October 10. The stipend is Rs 8,000-12,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/yIQWe.

AI/ML developer internship
Yardstick is hiring AI/ML Developer interns who can work from home. Students with knowledge of machine learning and Python can apply by October 10. The stipend is Rs 15,000-25,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/kwE3E.

Digital marketing internship
Finzo Ventures Private Limited is hiring digital marketing interns in Bengaluru. Students with knowledge of digital marketing and proficiency in English can apply by October 3. The stipend is Rs 8,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/H3nTv.

Business strategy internship
Takumi Motion Controls is hiring business strategy interns in Bengaluru. Students with knowledge of data extraction, finance, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, research, analytics, statistics, and proficient in written and spoken English can apply by September 18. The stipend is Rs 18,000-24,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/cLDZg.

Domestic education loan: UG & PG
Buddy4Study Education Loan Programme offers collateral-free loans upto Rs 40 lakh to Indian students who have been admitted to UG/PG programmes in Indian colleges. The annual income should be less than Rs 3 lakh if the loan amount exceeds Rs 7.5 lakh. Last date: December 31. Details: https://t.ly/ybjt0

Reliance Foundation scholarships
This scholarship offers an amount of Rs 6 lakh over the duration of a degree programme for deserving students studying Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Mathematics & Computing, Electrical/Electronics Engg., Chemical Engg., Mechanical Engg., Renewable and New Energy, Material Science & Engg. and Life Sciences. First year PG students who secured a score of 550 - 1,000 in the GATE Examination, or students who have scored 7.5 or above in their Undergraduate CGPA (or % normalised to CGPA). Last date: October 4. Details: https://t.ly/vqxcl

Engineering scholarship
IDFC FIRST Bank offers this scholarship to students currently enrolled in the first year of their B.Tech or B.E. Last date: September 30. Details: https://t.ly/TJ5ru

How artists, writers and designers can benefit from AI

MANISH MOHTA

For hundreds of years, artists, writers, and designers have been located at the intersection of imagination and craft, and they have influenced the way we think, imagine, and even how we remember history. Today, a new partner has entered their studios and workspaces, a tool that could feel more like a competitor or a collaborator: Artificial Intelligence.

The question is not if it will replace creative professionals but how it can amplify their work in ways that we have never experienced before.

The truth is, and it's important to understand, that the creative professionals of the future will not be the ones who resist AI, nor the ones who allow it to dictate their work, but those who shape it to their own vision. Artists, writers, and designers can harness AI to create new and unique possibilities without compromising the essence of their craft.

From blank page fear to infinite sparks

Every creative person knows the agony of staring at an empty canvas or a blinking cursor. AI tools can serve as sparring partners in those moments. Writers can feed in a rough idea and watch AI suggest opening lines, alternate plots, or even different tones of voice. Designers can generate mood boards in minutes instead of days.

Visual artists experimenting with forms can ask an AI to 'think' up ten distinct variants of a single concept—and these can become launch-pad ideas to help them realise their own genuine work. The distinction is subtle but important.

New eyes for old tools

AI isn't only about creating the new. It can be about re-seeing the old. Think about a painter running their sketches through an AI engine and, layered on, getting historical references from Renaissance or Mughal art that could offer some fresh hybrid inspirations.

Imagine writers asking AI to suggest how their draft essays would read if written as a letter in the 19th century. Designers can use AI to evaluate

their designs through the lens of multiple cultural contexts and accessibility frameworks.

Turning chaos into clarity

The modern creative world is drowning in new ideas. Artists scroll through endless references, writers collect dozens of half-written drafts, and designers pin thousands of clashing visuals on boards. Here, AI can act as an 'organiser of chaos.'

Visualise being given the option of recording your disorderly note. The AI will group all the notes and sketches into themes, reveal emerging themes, and define what feels original.

Expanding reach without selling your soul

One of the biggest challenges creatives face is not with actually creating, but with visibility or getting seen. Writers must market their books, artists must have an online following, and designers often have to pitch for client work. These tasks often lead to fatigue, and sometimes they can feel robotic, including for marketers.

AI can make a lot of the repetitive workload easier to handle. It can create captions, reformat existing content to share on other platforms, and in some cases, even recommend the best times to share to increase visibility. AI can summarise their articles into digestible newsletters, a great way to extend written content as well as keep audiences aware of what they have published.

Collaborating with the machine to find new languages

Possibly the greatest opportunity is in re-imagining creativity itself. Artists can collaborate with AI to create interactive works that respond to their audience, evolving in response to the audience's choices. Writers can experiment with stories that aren't linear, with AI supporting the reader's journey.

Preserving the human core

So we have this paradox: as AI encroaches deeper and deeper into the territory of creativity, human nuance possesses an increasingly tangible value. We expect that audiences want authenticity, imperfections, process, and authentic remnants of emotional divestment. From someone's lived experience, something that a machine cannot replicate.

So, the role of an artist, writer, or designer evolves, while AI may help us connect with more people, stage out drafts, and create opportunities. Ultimately, it is the human interpreter who decides what resonates, what matters, and what is worth existing in the world.

The creative future is hybrid

Ultimately, creativity has always been a conversation—between the artist and the medium, the writer and the words, the designer and the materials. Because AI is just the latest conversational partner. The creatives who will prevail will not be fearful of replacement, but will have cultivated discernment.

(The author is the founder of a learning solutions company)

Send in your queries, feedback and suggestions to us: dheducation@deccanherald.co.in

Resume is a ghost. Skills need to scream

PRIYANKA ARORA

The act of sending your resume into the online void feels a lot like spiritualism—performing a ritual, whispering into the digital ether, hoping some benevolent spirit on the other side—a recruiter, a hiring manager, the algorithm itself—will hear you and respond.

It's a passive, haunting game of hope. But what if you could stop being the ghost and start being the voice that cuts through the noise? The job market has undergone a silent, fundamental revolution, and the old incantations no longer work. Companies are no longer solely obsessed with the pedigree of your past. This is the era of skills-based hiring.

The degree, that golden ticket we were all told to secure at all costs, is being devalued not by a crash, but by a slow, steady leak. Major players from IBM to Google to countless startups have publicly dismantled the degree barrier. They're not doing it out of kindness; they're doing it because they're starving for people who can actually solve problems, manage projects, write code, analyse data, and calm a furious customer. This shift is a big opportunity for the modern job seeker. But to seize this opportunity, you must stop listing your history and start proving your capability.

Your traditional resume is an obituary. It's a cold, chronological record of where your career has been. Start by murdering your old objective statement and replacing it with a sharp, three-line "Summary of qualifications." This isn't about what you want; it's about what you offer. "Social media manager with 5+ years of experience driving engagement and conversion" is a start. But go further. "Proven ability to grow organic Instagram followership by over 200% in six months and reduce cost-per-click on Facebook ad campaigns by 40%." One is a title. The other is a toolkit of proven skills.

Next, turn every bullet point on your resume into a miniature case study. Use the STAR method—Situation, Task, Action, Result—as your guide, but focus relentlessly on the 'A' and 'R'. Don't say you "managed a project." Say you "orchestrated the migration of a company-wide database (Action), resulting in a 15% increase in team productivity and eliminating $20k in annual licensing fees (Result)."

But the most powerful tool in your arsenal is the modern portfolio. This is your proof of work, better-served online these days. Your cover letter should simply become a brief cover note with a single, powerful link: "To see examples of how I've applied these skills to drive real results, please see my portfolio here."

The interview is your studio

This new approach fundamentally changes the interview. Here you are an artist in your studio, actively showing your process. When they ask, "Tell me about a time you failed," you don't just tell a story. You walk them through the forensic evidence. You explain the skills of resilience, analysis, and course correction. When they give you a practical test or a sample project, you attack it with gusto. It's your chance to show them how you think, work, and build.

The old job search was about hoping someone would find the ghost of your past career compelling. The new one is about building a tangible and relevant body of work that screams your skills.

(The author is a Bengaluru-based management student)

Food prices drive WPI inflation to 4-month high of 0.52% in August

Prices of jewellery, edible oil surge; core inflation at 5-month high

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The annual wholesale price inflation rose to a four-month high of 0.52% in August driven by an uptick in prices of food and manufactured products, as per data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Monday.

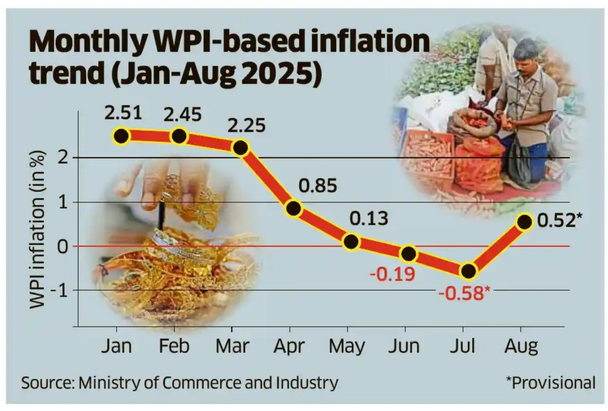
The factory gate inflation measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) was at a two-year low of -0.58% in July. It was in the deflationary zone in June as well.

"The change in wholesale prices trajectory after a couple of months of deflation was largely due to an upswing in food prices," said Paras Jasrai, Associate Director, India Ratings and Research.

Food prices in August 2025 were 0.2% higher when compared with the same month last year. The pace of decline in vegetable prices at 14.2% year-on-year in August was the slowest in six months.

Price of edible oil surged by 22.9% in August on a year-on-year basis, the sharpest increase in three months.

Jewellery prices surged by 32.6% in August when compared with the same month last year. This pushed the core inflation to a five-month high of 1.6% during the month under review.



A low base effect till the end of 2025 is likely to keep core inflation around 1.8% levels, Jasrai said.

Food items accounted for as much as 73 basis points of the 110 basis points uptick in the headline WPI print between August and July. This was followed by core WPI (non-food manufactured items) which added 27 bps to the headline print, said Rahul Agrawal, Senior Economist, ICRA.

Despite the month-on-month basis uptick the prices of major food items in August was lower when compared with the same month last year.

Price of onion in the wholesale market in August was less than half when compared with the same month last year while potato was 44.11% cheaper. Pulses were 14.85% cheaper and fruit price was 4.86% lower on a year-on-year basis.

However, milk became costlier by 2.58%, wheat by 4.75% and non-food articles by 5.56% during the month under review on a year-on-year basis.

While the expectations of a relatively more favourable CPI inflation trajectory following the GST rationalisation opens up space for a rate cut by the Reserve Bank of India, the positive impact of the same on growth outcomes in H2 FY2026, along with the stronger-than-expected GDP growth in Q1 is likely to result in a status quo in the upcoming October 2025 review meeting, said Agrawal.

Trade deficit narrows even as US tariffs cast shadow on exports

Imports slide by 10% to $61.59 billion in August

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India's trade deficit narrowed to $26.49 billion in August from $27.35 billion recorded in the previous month due a sharp drop in imports even as the high US tariffs impacted the country's outbound shipments.

The country's merchandise exports in August stood at $35.1 billion, which was lower than $37.24 billion recorded in July. However, on a year-on-year basis August export was 6.7% higher.

There was a sharp drop in merchandise imports both sequentially and on a year-on-year basis. Imports dropped to $61.59 billion in August, 10% lower when compared with August 2024 data of $68.53 billion. In July 2025 India's imports stood at $64.59 billion.

The impact of the high tariff imposed by US President Donald Trump administration on India's shipment to North America was visible in the August data. The growth in India's exports to the US slowed to a nine-month low of 7.2% in August from an average 25% recorded in the first seven months of 2025.

The Trump administration imposed 50% tariffs on the majority of goods imported from India. The 25% reciprocal tariffs came into effect at the beginning of August while an additional 25% penalty for India's economic engagements with Russia was imposed towards the end of the month.

"The penalty is likely to drive down exports to the US materially in September 2025, which should lead to a sharp dip in overall exports, while also pushing up the trade deficit in the month," said Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA.

Briefing the media, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said the government has taken measures to diversify India's exports basket. "We have identified around 100 products where domestic capacity exists. By boosting utilisation, we can replace imports, strengthen industry, and reduce vulnerabilities," he said.

Barthwal said the Ministry of Commerce and Industry will put the identified products list in the public domain by October end. "Our endeavour will be that we identify these products, put them in the public domain so that the manufacturers can look at them. It will give a boost to make in India," he added.

India's total exports (merchandise and services combined) rose to $69.16 billion in August, 9.34% higher when compared with the same month last year. Total imports (merchandise and services combined) in August was down by 7% to $79.04 billion in August.

During the period April to August 2025-26, India's cumulative merchandise exports stood at $184.13 billion, while imports were recorded at $306.52 billion.

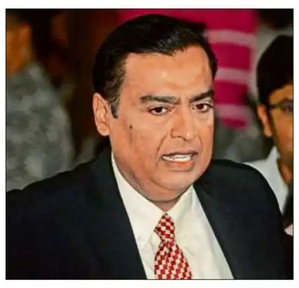
The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) President S C Ralhan urged the government to enhance support to MSMEs and ensure timely disbursement of export incentives.

Engineering goods exports increased by 4.91% to $9.90 billion in August. On a cumulative basis, engineering goods exports during the April-August period rose by 5.84% to $49.24 billion.

Reliance raises Rs 21K cr in asset-backed securities

BLOOMBERG

Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Group companies on Monday raised about Rs21,000 crore ($2.4 billion) through asset-backed securities, people familiar with the matter said, making it one of the largest such deals in India this year.


Mukesh Ambani

About three-fourths of the issuance was bought by the country's leading asset managers, including Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Co., HDFC Asset Management Co., ICICI Prudential Asset Management Co., Nippon Life India Asset Management Ltd. and SBI Funds Management Ltd., the people said, asking not to be identified as the information is not yet public.

The securities, known locally as pass-through certificates, were issued by three trusts — Radhakrishna Securitisation Trust, Shivshakti Securitisation Trust and Siddhivinayak Securitisation Trust — with maturities of about three, four and five years respectively, and carried an average coupon of 7.75%, the people said.

The Reliance offering drew a robust response, as it gave investors a chance to own top-rated asset-backed securities in a market still dominated by non-bank financial firms. The deal also adds heft to India's securitization market, which remains relatively small but is on track to reach a record high of more than 2.5 trillion rupees in issuance this fiscal year ending March, according to ICRA, an affiliate of Moody's Ratings.

"We are one of the top investors, as we found the instrument and the structure fitting into our investment requirements," said A Balasubramanian, chief executive officer of Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC.

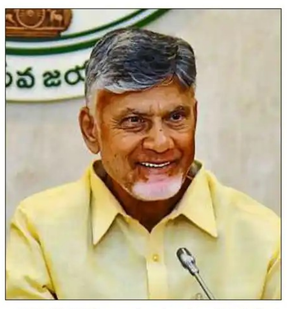
Strong demand allowed Reliance to upsize the transaction, arranged by Barclays Plc, from the initially planned Rs 18,000 crore to Rs 21,000 crore, the people said.

Representatives at Reliance Industries and ICICI Prudential AMC declined to comment, while spokespersons for SBI Funds, HDFC AMC, Nippon Life, and Barclays did not immediately respond to Bloomberg's emails seeking comment.

Backed by loan receivables from Digital Fibre Infrastructure Trust, an investment infrastructure trust set up by Reliance Industrial Investments and Holdings Ltd., the pass-through certificates are also supported by payouts under an options agreement between the ABS originators and promoter entities of Reliance Industries, the people said.

Naidu seeks 240-day mortorium on loan & interest for aqua exporters

HYDERABAD, DHNS: In response to 50% tariffs imposed by the United States, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has written to the Centre requesting comprehensive support for exporters and aquaculture companies in the state.


AP CM Chandrababu Naidu

His requests include a 240-day moratorium on loan and interest repayments, interest subsidies, and a temporary waiver of the 5% GST on frozen shrimp. To promote the domestic market for marine products, Naidu has requested a Rs 100 crore corpus fund and the establishment of cold storage facilities and hygienic fish and seafood markets.

The state government has expressed readiness to establish the Andhra Pradesh Shrimp Producers Coordination Committee to facilitate direct farmer-to-market supply chains. Naidu has appealed to the Centre to support aquaculture farmers in Andhra Pradesh who are facing severe distress due to the US-imposed tariffs. He has urged the Union Government to take decisive action at the national level to protect aqua farmers from losses and requested measures to increase domestic consumption of aquaculture products. To this end, he has written separate letters to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, and Fisheries Minister Rajeev Ranjan Singh.

In addition, he urged the Centre to focus on diversifying export markets beyond the US. He suggested entering into Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the European Union, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Russia to boost exports. The CM also sought interim financial support for exporters, clarity on tariff/tax relief schemes, and noted that exporters were ready to supply seafood to the EU.

He stressed the need to expand the domestic aqua market. He requested a Rs 100 crore corpus fund, establishment of cold storages, hygienic fish and seafood markets. He also called for awareness campaigns to promote seafood consumption.

iValue Infosolutions sets price at Rs 284-299 a share

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru-based iValue Infosolutions Limited, an enterprise technology solutions specialist, on Monday fixed a price band of Rs 284 to Rs 299 an equity share for its upcoming initial public offering (IPO). It aims to raise about Rs 560 crore through an offer for sale of up to 18,738,958 equity shares. It proposes to open an IPO of its equity shares with face value of Rs 2 each on Thursday, September 18. The offer closes on September 22.

Further, 5% of the net QIB (qualified institutional buyers) portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to mutual funds (MFs), subject to valid bids being received at or above the offer price, and the remainder of the net QIB portion will be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs.

Invenia-STL Networks secures Rs 360-cr contract from PowerGrid

BENGALURU, DHNS: Digital infrastructure and IT services company Invenia-STL Networks has secured a contract worth over Rs 360 crore from PowerGrid Teleservices, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Power Grid Corporation of India, the largest electric power transmission utility.

As part of the agreement, Invenia will design, build, commission, and maintain the complete IT and cloud infrastructure for a Greenfield Tier-III data centre at PowerGrid's Manesar facility, the company said on Monday.

Invenia will also establish a Disaster Recovery Data Centre (DRDC) and deliver a scalable Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) solution complemented by Disaster Recovery Services, it added.

Fintech CRED launches new credit card programme

BENGALURU, DHNS: Fintech platform CRED, which was founded in 2018 by Kunal Shah, launched a new credit card programme on Monday. The first launch in this programme is the CRED IndusInd Bank Rupay credit card. CRED said 24-karat gold is available at live market rates, and members can take physical delivery of coins within 48 hours or convert holdings into jewellery at jewellers like Tanishq. Kunal Shah, founder, CRED said, "The new CRED credit card programme turns every online spend into an act of self-expression, with rewards that follow taste, not terms. Instant redemption upgrades every transaction, merging product, platform, and privilege into a seamless lifestyle extension."

Government of Karnataka
FOOD SAFETY AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION
PHI Compound, Sheshadri Road, Bangalore-560001.
e-mail: **cfskarnataka@gmail.com**

No: FSSD/WP/CB/44/2025-WPB Date: 15.09.2025

Re-TENDER NOTICE

The Food Safety and Drugs Administration, Karnataka invites tender for Supply & Installation of Basic Equipments for Divisional Food Laboratory- Mysore. Eligible suppliers can participate by submitting their bids. For more details, please visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Deputy Commissioner (Admin)
DIPR/CP/2816/NR/2025-26 Food Safety and Drugs Administration, Bangalore.

RURAL DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief Engineer, RDW&S Dept.,
1st Floor, E-Block,KHB Complex, Cauvery Bhavan,
Bangalore-560009. Tel: 080-22053700 Email: cerws14@gmail.com

No. RWSSD/2025-26/SE0763 Date : 15.09.2025

TENDER INVITATION

Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Govt. of Karnataka invites tender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible bidders in two cover system (Technical and Financial bid) for **"Providing Project Manegement Consultancy Services for Implementation of Water Supply Scheme in Bagalkot District on DBOT basis under Jal Jeevan Mission"**. EMD: **Rs. 5,63,000/-.**

The last date for submission of bids through e-portal is **15-10-2025.**

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority
RDW&SD, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/YC/2815/2025-26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. SEE/Tr(P)C/MRB/AEE(C)/EE(O)/25-26/3008-09 Date:15.09.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Tender for the following Civil Engineering work.

Indent No:KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT2554/Call-2 **for Providing boundary fencing with RCC poles for the proposed 110/11kV sub-station at Halapura in Maski Taluk, Raichur Dist. (Others).** Amount is Rs. (Excluding GST): **Rs.4,26,434.40** The Tender will be received through KPPP mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the KPPP process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or directly logging on to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 16.09.2025**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele., Tr.(Projects) Circle, KPTCL, Munirabad.

Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood
Society For Karnataka German Multi Skill Development Centre
(A Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the KGMSDC, CoE Building, Kaushalya Bhavan Campus, Bannerughatta Road, Bengaluru - 56 0029. Ph.: 080-29649797, **Website:** kgmsdc.karnataka.gov.in
No: KGS/EST/KGT/REC/AD/CR-31/2025-26 Dated: 15.09.2025

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

KGMSDC Society promoted by Government of Karnataka **with technical support of German International Cooperation (GIZ-IS) Germany has already established Eight Karnataka German Technical Training Institutes (KGTTIs) at Bengaluru, Kalaburagi, Belagavi, Mangaluru, Hubballi, Mysuru, Gouribidanuru and Karkala.** The Society is looking for dynamic people with a passion for teaching/training for the following positions.

Sl.No.	Position	Location	Number of Posts
01	Assistant Director	KGTTI, Bengaluru	01
02	Assistant Director	KGTTI, Kalaburagi	01

Detailed requirements of the position & information can be obtained from our website: **www.kgmsdc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Member Secretary, KGMSDC, Bengaluru

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಲೋ.ಇ. ಪೂರಕ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಕೆ.ಆರ್. ವೃತ್ತ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560 001. ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080–22133370
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 20/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:15.09.2025

ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನೈಸ್ ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಿದ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನಗಳ ಸಂಚಾರವನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆಹಚ್ಚಲು ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸಹಿದಾರರು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ನಂ.1, ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿನ ಸೇವೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕೆಲಸದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಳಗೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ: Installing on lease, 4 Cameras at the specified locations for 30 days at NICE Road having facilities of PTZ, Remote facility, Day and Night capture with Infrared, Motion sensor, Characteristics detecting with detection and tracking of objects, Category classification into 6 object types. Detection scale of 512x320 pixels, Maximum IR Distance 30m and with Video based automatic control confirmation of entering vehicle with machine learning software and Video detection features, Interactive data visualization, Time stamp and GPS Location, Traffic analysis functions and complete as per specification and direction of Engineer-in-charge and submit the entire capture report within 2 days after the completion of the 30 days capture along with the uncut video grab in MPEG or other commonly viewable format in a hard drive. Cameras shall have full battery back up without outage. Unit: **Job,** Qty:**1**

ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸುವ ಸೇವಾ ಪೂರೈಕೆದಾರರು ಐಟಿ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಪೂರೈಕೆದಾರರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು ಅಥವಾ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಮಾನವಾದ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವವರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು ಮತ್ತು ತಮ್ಮ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಮೊಹರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ **22.09.2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ಅಥವಾ ಅದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಮೊದಲು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. ಮೊಹರಾದ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಪಿಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂಡಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಇಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ **23.09.2025ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.** ಯಾವುದೇ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಳಸಹಿದಾರರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಭೇಟಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಉನಿ–ಸಿ.ಪಿ/2811/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ.ಧಾ/ಸ.ಇಂ.–2/2025–2026/2203 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15–09–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ–19 /2025–26 (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ್, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ಇವರಿಂದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: No.FD 876 Exp-12/2017, Bangalore, dated: 15-09-2017 ರನ್ವಯ 2024–25 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಲೆ.ಶೀ: 5054 ಮಳೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಗಳಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ. ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ಸ್ KW-1 & KW-2 ರಲ್ಲಿಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

Indent No General : 18695, 17001,18747,18807,
SC Category : 18087, 16999, 18258,
Category – 2A : 16974, 16996,18786

ಕ್ಯಾಲೆಂಡರ್ ಆಫ್ ಇವೆಂಟ್ಸ್:

(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–09–2025 ರಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು **ದಿನಾಂಕ:25–09–2025**ರ ಸಂಜೆ **4:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. (2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26–09–2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ **4:30** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿಯಮ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೋಸೆಸ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ/EMD ಮೊತ್ತ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೇ, ಯಾವುದೇ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಅಥವಾ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– (ಆರ್.ಎಂ.ಸೊಪ್ಪಿಮಠ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/668/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2025–26

Government of Karnataka
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Regional Transport Officer, Bengaluru (Central), HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560102.

No: RTO/BNG(C)/Tender/2025-26 Date: 12.09.2025

e-Tender Notification

Tender is invited by Transport Department from the eligible firms for **Security Guards work at Regional Transport Office, Bengaluru (Central), HSR Layout, Bengaluru,** situated at No. CA31/A, 1st Sector, 21st Main road, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560102. Tender along with necessary documents shall be submitted on-line through e-Procurement platform only. For more details please log on to e-proc website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Tenderers may take assistance from e-Procurement helpdesk at **080-460010000 / 080-68948777.**

For House keeping Services Tender No: TD/2025-269/SE0104 : Last date for submission of Tender is 30.09.2025 upto 4.00 pm.

For Security Services Tender No: TD/2025-269/SE0103 : Last date for submission of Tender is 30.09.2025 upto 5.00 pm.

For clarification please contact : **080-25533525 / 9449864001**

Sd/- Regional Transport Officer
Bengaluru (Central), Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/YC/2813/2025-26

HAVERI DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS SOCIETIES UNION LTD., HAVEMUL
VETERINARY HOSPITAL COMPOUND, P.B. ROAD, HAVERI 581 110
NO- HAVEMUL/ADMIN/AGM/2025-26/ DATE: 06.09.2025

2024-25 ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING NOTICE

Haveri District Co-Operative Milk Producers Societies Union Ltd., Haveri is Scheduled its Annual General Body Meeting for the year 2024-25 on 22.09.2025, Monday, 12:00PM at "Sri. Guru Siddarameshwar Samudaya Bhavan, Near R.T.O Office, P. B. Road, Haveri-581110" under the Chairmanship of Sri. Manjanagouda H. Patil, President, Haveri District Co-Operative Milk Union Ltd., Haveri. Honourable members of the Union are requested to attend the meeting in time.

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Real begin hunt for 16th CL title

Madrid face Marseille, Arsenal host Bilbao

MADRID, AFP

Record 15-time kings of Europe Real Madrid open their new Champions League campaign on Tuesday against Marseille hoping they now have the coach and squad to reconquer the throne.

Madrid refreshed their squad this summer with several new signings at a cost of around 170 million euros ($200 million) and hired former midfielder Xabi Alonso to replace veteran Carlo Ancelotti. Los Blancos were dismantled 5-1 on aggregate by Arsenal in last season's quarter-finals, underlining the need to take a step forward both tactically and in terms of personnel.

With a top-heavy attack as Ancelotti insisted on regularly lining up with a 'fantastic four' of Kylian Mbappe, Vinicius Junior, Rodrygo Goes and Jude Bellingham, Madrid's defence was easily fractured. Ancelotti could not find the right strategy to protect the team and although Mbappe hit top form in the second half of the season, star power alone was not enough against Europe's elite.

Arsenal's new attack

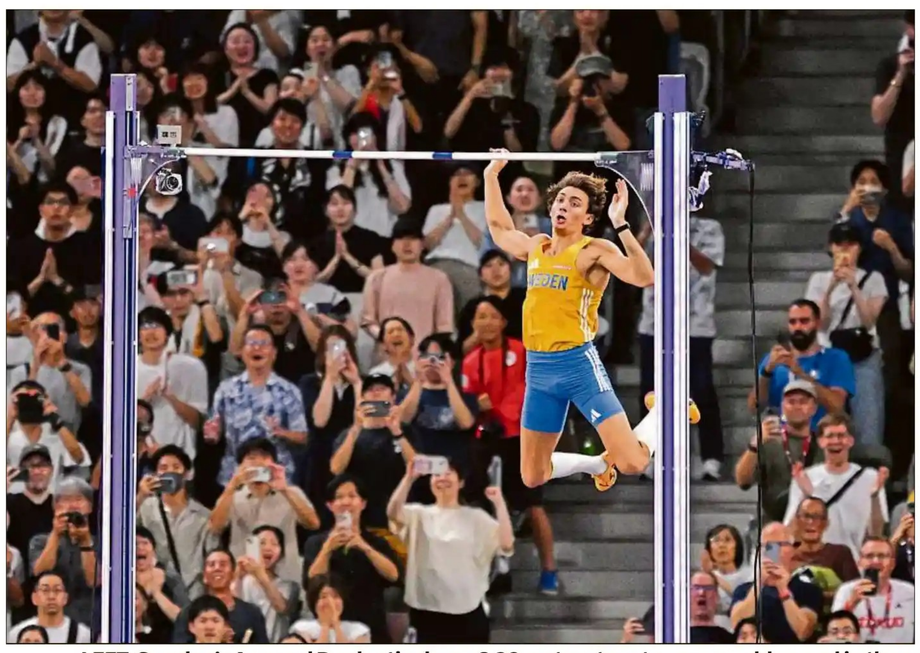
Arsenal start their bid for European glory against Athletic Bilbao earliest of all on Tuesday night, powered by a new-look attack revitalised by the Gunners' summer spending spree. Mikel Arteta's side reached the semi-finals of Europe's top competition for the first time since 2009 last season before losing to eventual winners Paris Saint-Germain.

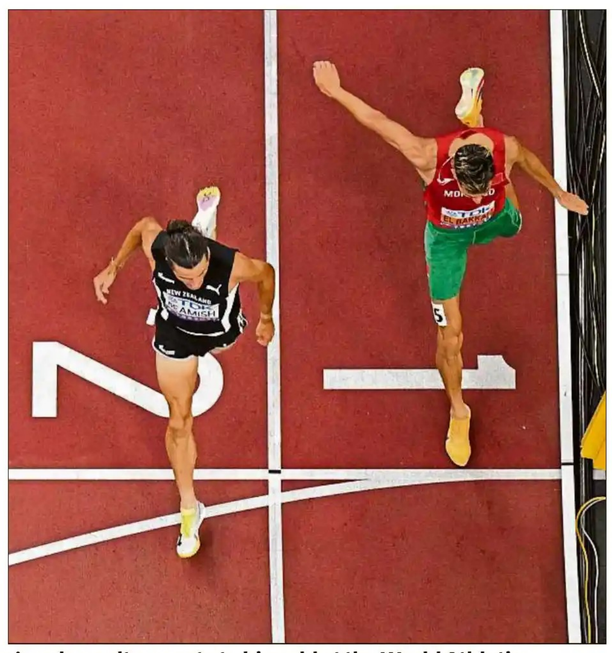
Fixtures: PSV vs Union St-Gilloise, Athletic Bilbao vs Arsenal (both 10:15 pm); Juventus vs Dortmund, Benfica vs Qarabag, Tottenham vs Villarreal, Real Madrid vs Marseille (All 12:30 am; Tuesday night)

LIVE ON SONY SPORTS NETWORK

Arsenal's Leandro Trossard (left), Martin Zubimendi (right) and Declan Rice during a training session ahead of their match against Athletic Bilbao in London. REUTERS

ATHLETICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS





LEFT: Sweden's Armand Duplantis clears 6.30 metres to set a new world record in the men's pole vault en route to his gold at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo on Monday. New Zealand's Geordie Beamish (left) pips Morocco's Soufiane El Bakkali at the finish line to win a thrilling men's 3000m steeplechase race. REUTERS/AFP

Duplantis soars higher

Pole vaulter breaks own world record for 14th time, Beamish stuns El Bakkali

TOKYO, AFP

Sweden's Armand 'Mondo' Duplantis set a new world record of 6.30 metres as he sensationally defended his world pole vault title in Tokyo on Monday. Meanwhile, New Zealand's Geordie Beamish produced a last-gasp spurt to edge defending two-time champion Soufiane El Bakkali for gold in a thrilling men's 3,000m steeplechase.

Duplantis had already wrapped up the competition with a winning vault of 6.15m before raising the bar another 15cm. The Swede went clear on his third attempt in what was his 14th world record in a discipline in which he is totally dominant. It was his fourth world record in 2025 alone.

Greece's Emmanouil Karalis took silver with a best of 6.00, and Australian Kurtis Marschall claimed bronze with a personal best of 5.95, taking the medal on countback from American Sam Kendricks.

El Bakkali left in tears

Beamish left it late, sprinting through the crowded field to come alongside the Moroccan — who also won the last two Olympic golds — and pinch a dramatic victory at the line for New Zealand's first track gold at a world championships.

The New Zealander, who was spiked in the heats and fell to the track before recovering, clocked a winning time of 8 minute 33.88 seconds to halt El Bakkali's dominant streak on the global stage. El Bakkali was seven-hundredths of a second adrift in second, while Kenyan teenager Edmund Serem rounded out the podium (8:34.56).

First-ever Tanzanian gold

Tanzania's Alphonce Felix Simbu produced a savage dip at the line to snatch world marathon gold from Germany's Amanal Petros. Simbu and Eritrea-born Petros were both clocked at 2hr 09min 48sec in the most dramatic of endings for the longest event of the world championships in the Japanese capital, the Tanzanian adjudged to have finished three-hundredths ahead. Italy's Iliass Aouani claimed bronze in 2:09:53.

Meanwhile, Switzerland's Ditaji Kambundji claimed a shock gold in the women's 100m hurdles. Kambundji clocked a national record of 12.24 seconds for victory.

Results: Men: 3000m steeplechase: Geordie Beamish (NZ) 8:33.88s, 1; Soufiane El Bakkali (MAR) 8:33.95, 2; Edmund Serem (KEN) 8:34.56, 3.
Marathon: Alphonce Felix Simbu (TAN) 2:09:48s, 1; Amanal Petros (GER) 2:09:48, 2; Iliass Aouani (ITA) 2:09:53, 3.
Pole vault: Armand Duplantis (SWE), 6.30m (WR), 1; Emmanouil Karalis (GRE) 6.00, 2; Kurtis Marschall (AUS) 5.95, 3.
Women: 100m hurdles: Ditaji Kambundji (SUI) 12.24s, 1; Tobi Amusan (NGR) 12.29, 2; Grace Stark 12.34, 3. **Hammer throw:** Camryn Rogers (CAN) 80.51m, 1; Jie Zhao (CHN) 77.60, 2; Jiale Zhang (CHN) 77.10, 3.

Another day of no show by Indian athletes

TOKYO, PTI: Star Indian long jumper Murali Sreeshankar failed to qualify for the finals in the World Championships with a 14th place finish in his qualification group as the country's athletes continued their disappointing performance here.

Competing in his third World Championships, Sreeshankar could only produce a best jump of 7.78m in his three attempts in Group A qualification round. He ended 25th overall out of 37 competitors.

National record holder Parul Chaudhary and Ankita Dhyani disappointed in the women's 3000m steeplechase, finishing ninth and 11th respectively in their respective heat races.

Barcelona thwart Valencia

BARCELONA, AFP: Robert Lewandowski, Raphinha and Fermin Lopez struck twice each as Barcelona thumped Valencia 6-0 on Sunday in a La Liga match they were forced to play at their tiny training ground stadium because of delays in reopening the Camp Nou.

The rampant Spanish champions moved second, two points behind leaders Real Madrid, who boast a 100 percent record after their win at Real Sociedad on Saturday.

Hosting the game at the 6,000-capacity Johan Cruyff Stadium beside their training facilities west of the city, with the rebuilt Camp Nou not yet permitted to open, Barca's first home game of the season saw high-calibre football in a low-key setting.

Lamine Yamal's absence due to a groin issue was a further blow for Barca, with coach Hansi Flick criticising the Spanish national team.

Krish heads double podium at National karting

BENGALURU, DHNS: Mumbai's Krish Gupta led a double podium for Rayo Racing as he topped the finals in the Senior category in the fourth round of the MECO-FMSCI National Karting Championship Rotax Max Classes which concluded at the Meco Kartopia circuit here on Sunday.

The results: Senior Max (Finals – 18 laps): 1. Krish Gupta (Mumbai, Rayo Racing) (16mins, 57.541secs); 2. Ajun Vijay Chheda (Pune, Crest Motorsports) (16:58.849); 3. Aahil Mecklai (Mumbai, Rayo Racing) (17:00.784). **Pre-Final (16 laps)**: 1. Ishaan Madesh (Bengaluru, Peregrine Racing) (13:17.191); 2. Arjun Vijay Chheda (Pune, Crest Motorsports) (13:19.777); 3. Aahil Mecklai (Mumbai, Rayo Racing) (13:20.993).
Junior Max (Finals – 16 laps): 1. Arafat Sheikh (Pune, Crest Motorsports) (15:18.506); 2. Kiaan Shah (Mumbai, Rayo Racing) (15:20.876); 3. Kairav Roberson (Chennai, MSPORT) (15:29.883). **Pre-Final (14 laps)**: 1. Arafat Sheikh (Pune, Crest Motorsports) (13:17.485); 2. Kiaan Shah (Mumbai, Rayo Racing) (13:23.874); 3. Rishik Rohit Reddy (Bengaluru, MSPORT) (13:24.370).
Mini Max (Finals – 14 laps): 1. Rivaan Dev Preetham (Chennai, SPORT) (14:43.682); 2. Rehan Khan Rasheed (Chennai, Momentum Motorsports) (14:43.917); 3. Hamza Balasinorwala (Mumbai, Crest Motorsports) (14:45.207). **Pre-Final (12 laps)**: 1. Rivaan Dev Preetham (Chennai, SPORT) (11:47.950); 2. Rehan Khan Rasheed (Chennai, Momentum Motorsports) (11:49.623); 3. Hamza Balasinorwala (Mumbai, Crest Motorsports) (11:52.052).
Micro Max (Finals): 1. Shiv Tummala (Bengaluru, Peregrine Racing) (12:21.437); 2. Shiv Neel (Coimbatore, MSPORT) (12:22.231); 3. Rudra Pratap Singh (Gurugram, Leapfrog Racing) (12:24.640). **Pre-Final**: 1. Shiv Tummala (Bengaluru, Peregrine Racing) (12:13.427); 2. Shiv Neel (Coimbatore, MSPORT) (12:16.613); 3. Arshi Gupta (Faridabad, Leapfrog Racing) (12:16.703).

FIH Pro League season from Dec 9

LAUSANNE, PTI: The 2025-26 season of the FIH Hockey Pro League will get underway on December 9 in Argentina and Ireland, with a record 144 matches lined up across 10 host nations. The winners of both the men's and women's leagues will directly qualify for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

The seventh edition of the "League of the Best" will feature two newcomers — Ireland women and Pakistan men — promoted from the FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2024-25.

The season will get underway with Germany taking on Belgium men in Ireland, while action will continue in Argentina later in the day with men's champions Netherlands facing League debutants Pakistan.

Hosts and dates of all rounds: Ireland (Dec 9-14), Argentina (Dec 9-14), China (Feb 5-10), Spain (Feb 5-10), Australia (Feb 10-15 and Feb 20-25), India (Feb 10-15), England (June 13-21 and June 23-28), Netherlands (June 13-21), Belgium (June 13-21 and June 23-28), Germany (June 23-28).

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Sandal City: P.B No. 5531, Bengaluru - Pune Highway, Bengaluru – 560055.
Ph: 080-22164879, 22164886, Website: **www.mysoresandal.org** E-mail: **ksdl.dgmmtls@gmail.com**
An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company
Date : 15.09.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited by **KS&DL** in two cover system through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/**) with respect to supply of following Goods/Services/Works.

Sl.No.	Tender Number	Tender Name	Tender Quantity	Published date	Last date of submission
1	KSDL/2025-26/IND0907	Procurement of Camphor	2000 Kg	12.09.2025	26.09.2025

For any queries contact the undersigned
Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

KARNATAKA NIRAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ENTERPRISE)
Office of the Executive Engineer,KNNL,No.4 Canal Division, Sirwar,Tq:Dist:Raichur
ಸಂ: ಕಾನಿಅ:4/ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ/ತಾಶಾ/2701–ಟೆಂಡರ್/2025–26/548 ದಿನಾಂಕ:12.09.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement only)

For the year 2025-26 works of Rs 4.00 Lakhs to Rs.60.00 Lakhs percentage tenders for Two- cover system through e-procurement platform are invited by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, No.4 Canal Division, Sirwar on Behalf of The Managing Director, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, 4th Floor, Coffee Board Building, Dr.B.R Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-01 from eligible registered contractor enrolled in KPWD. Last date for submission of completed tender document is up to 23.09.2025 up to 4.00 PM. All other details of work & terms and conditions can be obtained through website kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home or in the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Corrigendum will be published in web site kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home for all modifications/ corrections, if any.

DIP/RCR/404/KSMC&A/405/2025-26
Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL, No.4 Canal Division ,Sirwar.

8th Rotary amateur golf begins at KGA

BENGALURU, DHNS: With some of the top golfers in fray, the eighth edition of the IGU Bio-Gen Rotary Southern India Amateur Golf Championship is all set to kick-off at the Karnataka Golf Association here from Tuesday.

Sitting in second and third positions on the order of merit list thus far, Uttar Pradesh duo of Arin Ahuja, Sukhman Singh are the ones to watch out for when the men's four-day contest at the par-72 course. Their counterpart Kanav Chauhan and Delhi's Deepak Yadav are expected to pose a threat for the title.

Among the women, who begin their three-day competition on Wednesday, Keya Badugu (Delhi), Anvvi Dahayaa (Haryana), Kashika Mishra (Odisha) and Rashi Mishra (Goa) will slug it out for the top prize.

Vaishali books Candidates berth

SAMARKAND (UZBEKISTAN), PTI

Indian Grandmaster R Vaishali won the FIDE Women's Grand Swiss for the second time in a row and made it to the women's Candidates tournament after a hard-fought draw against former world champion Zhongyi Tan of China in the 11th and final round here on Monday.

Russian Kateryna Lagno played out a draw fairly quickly with Ulviyya Fataliyeva of Azerbaijan to end at the top of the table, along with Vaishali, on eight points out of a possible 11. Lagno became the other qualifier for the Candidates, apart from Vaishali, from here.

Vaishali had a little better tie-break score to win the tournament as she played with much higher ranked Zhongyi.

The Indian GM had also won the tournament in 2023 in Isle of Man, United Kingdom. Her victory here signifies that the Indian women are also going to hog the limelight like their male counterparts soon.

India's R Vaishali drew against former world champion Zhongyi Tan of China in the 11th and final round to win the Grand Swiss tournament on Monday. X

Vaishali won six, lost one and drew the remaining four games and her tie-break on average rating of opponents proved just one point more than that of Lagno. The victory means that the siblings, Vaishali and Praggnanandhaa will be again making it to the Candidates, the final frontier to challenge the world champion.

None of the other Indians in the FIDE Grand Swiss could make it to the Candidates, that is reserved for eight players in all and two from here.

Anish Giri was the winner in the open section as he crushed Hans Moke Niemann of United States.

As things stand right now, Anish Giri and Matthias Bluebaum (from this tournament), Hikaru Nakamura of United States (on rating), R Praggnanadhaa (on his tournament circuit performance) and Fabiano Caruana of United States will make it to the Candidates.

The last three spots will be filled in from the World Chess Cup to be held in Goa next month. The winner of the Candidates will challenge reigning world champion D Gukesh.

While only one place seems assured for the Indians in the men's section, there are already three in the women's category who have made it to the Candidates.

Divya Deshmukh and Koneru Humpy have already qualified.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, HAL Airport Road, Bengaluru - 560 017
(Phone: 080 25084184, 4156)
BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

Sl.No	Description	Details			
1	Name of work	Contract for Fabrication of Wooden Boxes, Storage Racks, Partition Doors/ Frames etc. at Various Locations in Main Campus and ISITE Campus, URSC, Bengaluru.	Providing Aluminium Partitions for SCG Lab in AITF-1 Extension and SMG facilities in MSA Building at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru.	Extension of Bitumen Road from Reception Building to Solar Panel and Battery Laboratory Building at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru.	Providing Paver Blocks for Four Wheeler Parking Area Behind Solar Panel and Battery Laboratory Building at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru.
2	E-Tender Notice No.	URSC/C&MG/C/M/14/2025-26, Dt: 11.09.2025	URSC/C&MG/C/M/15/2025-26, Dt: 11.09.2025	URSC/C&MG/C/M/16/2025-26, Dt: 11.09.2025	URSC/C&MG/C/M/17/2025-26, Dt: 11.09.2025
3	Estimated cost put to tender	₹ 24.09 Lakhs	₹ 14.95 Lakhs	₹ 24.02 Lakhs	₹ 24.01 Lakhs
4	Tender Document details	E-Tender			
5	Period of completion	TWELVE MONTHS	THREE MONTHS	FIVE MONTHS	FIVE MONTHS
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 48,180/- valid for 180 days	Rs. 29,900/- valid for 180 days	Rs. 48,040/- valid for 180 days	Rs. 48,020/- valid for 180 days
7	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	From 09.30 hrs on 12.09.2025 to 23.59 hrs on 26.09.2025		From 09.30 hrs on 15.09.2025 to 23.59 hrs on 29.09.2025	
8	Bid clarification	From 10.30 hrs on 12.09.2025 to 17.00 hrs on 29.09.2025		From 10.30 hrs on 15.09.2025 to 17.00 hrs on 03.10.2025	
9	Last date of reply to Bid Clarification	Up to 17.00 hrs on 03.10.2025		Up to 17.00 hrs on 07.10.2025	
10	Last date and time for receipt of tenders	Up to 14.30 hrs on 07.10.2025		Up to 14.30 hrs on 09.10.2025	
11	Due date and time of opening of tenders	14.30 hrs Onwards on 07.10.2025		14.30 hrs Onwards on 09.10.2025	

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**.
Sd/-,
Group Director, C&MG, URSC

Corte Madera paces to victory in main event

HYDERABAD RESULTS

Leo Desilva-trained Corte Madera, ridden by Afroz Khan, won the S Malakonda Reddy Memorial Cup, the feature event of the Hyderabad races on Monday.
Dapper Look, ridden by Gaurav Singh, and Black Dust, ridden by Sai Kumar finished in second and third positions respectively.

1. Asifabad Plate - 1200M: Dali's Champion (Dilip Kumar) Kuldeep Singh 1; Deccan Ranger (Ashhad Asbar) 2; Fortune Art (BR Kumar) 3; Muaser (Ajeeth Kumar) 4; Wb: 1-1/4, 2L, 2L. T: 1:16.06 TB: Sreekant. Fav: Dali's Champion.
2. Silver Jet Plate (Div II) - 1200M: Diablo (Ashok Ranpise) Sai Kumar 1; Ragnarok (Mukesh Kumar) 2; Darling's Boy (Kuldeep Singh) 3; Kalki (Abhay Singh) 4; Not Run: Calistoga. Wb: 2-1/4, 1/2, 5-1/4L. T: 1:13.15. TB: Prasad Raju. Fav: Diablo.
3. Nelston Plate - 1400M: My Challenge (Mahesh Yadav) G Naresh 1; Lego (Ashhad Asbar) 2; Mountain Touch (Ajay Kumar) 3; Opera Queen (B Nikhil) 4; Wb: 4-1/2, 2L, Nk. T: 1:27.91. TB: Laxman Singh. Fav: Mountain Touch.
4. S Malakonda Reddy Memorial Cup - 1800M: Corte Madera (Ramakrishna Reddy) Afroz Khan 1; Dapper Look (Gaurav Singh) 2; Black Dust (Sai Kumar) 3; Krystallos (Ashhad Asbar) 4; Wb: 6-3/4, 2-1/2, 5-1/2L. T: 1:53.00. TB: Leo Desilva. Fav: Corte Madera.
5. Bhadrachalam Cup - 1200M: Clara (Rohin Kumar) Imran Chisty 1; Calabasas (Mukesh Kumar) 2; Knight Crusader (BR Kumar) 3; Rolls Royce (Abhay Singh) 4; Wb: Nk, 1-1/4, 4-1/2L,. T: 1:14.26. TB: Sreekant. Fav: Clara.
6. Silver Jet Plate (Div I) - 1200M: Espionage (Prakash Babu) Kuldeep Singh 1; She Can (Neeraj Rawal) 2; Brooklyn Beauty (B Nikhil) 3; Star Forever (Ajay Kumar) 4; Wb: 3-1/4, 1-1/4, 1/2L. T: 1-13.31. TB: D Netto. Fav: Espionage.
Bengaluru dividends:
I race: Rs 37w; 15, 16, 13p; Fc: Rs 133; Q: Rs 100; Shp: Rs 36; Thp: Rs 43; Tri: Rs 197 & 87; Ex: Rs 863 & 500.
II race: Rs 22w; Rs 12, 12, 14p; Fc: Rs 64; Q: Rs 34; Shp: Rs 35; Thp: Rs 32; Tri: Rs 117 & 60; Ex: Rs 207 & 85.
III race: Rs 28w; 11, 17, 11p; Fc: Rs 164; Q: Rs 104; Shp: Rs 51; Thp: Rs 59; Tri: Rs 309 & 59; Ex: Rs 10,622 & 11,381.
IV race: Rs 18w; 10, 13, 11p; Fc: Rs 46; Q: Rs 33; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 43; Tri: Rs 49 & 19. Ex: Rs 192 & 140.
V race: Rs 18w; 12, 12, 17p; Fc: Rs 45; Q: Rs 24; Shp: Rs 29; Thp: Rs 46; Tri: Rs 82 & 46; Ex: Rs 309 & 210.
VI race: Rs 33w; 13, 13, 80p; Fc: Rs 121; Q: Rs 46; Shp: Rs 34; Thp: Rs 217; Tri: Rs 9,193 & 11,820; Ex: Rs 24,696 & 5,292.
Jackpot: Rs 942 (347).
Runner-up: Rs 50 (2365).
I treble: Rs 164 (32).
II treble: Rs 575 (52).

IN BRIEF

Pacer Siraj is POTM

India pacer Mohammed Siraj of India was on Monday named ICC Player of the Month for August following his heroic effort in the fifth and final Test against England, reports PTI from Dubai.

Orla Prendergast of Ireland too was named player of the month alongside Siraj.

Bhavani wins historic medal

Karnataka's TN Bhavani won a bronze medal in the discipline distance 5km at the FIS cross-country skiing competition in Chile, with a timing of 21.04, reports DHNS. This is also the first-ever international FIS medal for India in the women's category in cross-country skiing, making the achievement particularly significant.

Yashawanth hits four goals

Yashawanth scored four goals in Shlok Hockey Club's 9-1 rout over Dharwad District Hockey Team in the latest round of matches of the DS Murthy Memorial hockey tournament on Monday in Bengaluru, reports DHNS.

Yashawanth's quarter of goals (7th, 34th, 47th and 49th minutes) were backed by five other team-mates in the goal fest.

Results: Shlok HC: 9 (Prajwal 2nd, Vinoth 4th, Yashawanth 7th, 34th, 47th, 49th, Mohammed Zaid 16th, Lokesh 20th, Sundaram 42nd) bt Dharwad District HA: 1
Falcon Hockey Club: 4 (Sunderraj 19th, 27th, Kavan Rai 41st, Govind 50th) bt Karnataka Forest Dept: 3 (Bharath KK 24th, 53rd, Darshan DS 58th).

Junior judokas win 6 medals

Indian judokas secured a total of six medals at the the Asian Junior Judo Championship to finish as the first runner-up in the women's overall section and second runner-up in the men and women combined category in Jakarta, Indonesia, reports DHNS.

Medallists (all women): Gold: Shahin (57 kg), Himanshi Tokas (63 kg).
Silver: Ishroop Narang (78 kg)
Bronze: Linthoi (63 kg), Taibanganbi (70 kg), Kanwarpreet Kaur (+78 kg).

ICT recover to beat JSS

ICT women's team began their Karnataka State Senior Volleyball Championship campaign with an 84-72 win over JSS at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, reports DHNS.

Results: Men: ALV: 75 bt MLC: 62 (3-0); CCM: 75 bt SHU: 35 (3-0). **Women: ICT:** 84 bt JSS: 72 (3-1); SDM: 75 bt BMS: 49 (3-0); POS: 75 bt RSC: 40 (3-0)

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET
Asia Cup: Bangladesh vs Afghanistan **(8 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Ten 1**.

ATHLETICS
World Championships: Day 4 **(4 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

FOOTBALL
Champions League: Athletic Club vs Arsenal **(10:15 pm)**, Real Madrid vs. Marseille, Juventus vs Borussia Dortmund, Tottenham vs Villarreal **(all 12:30 am, Wednesday)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

KABADDI
PKL: UP Yoddhas vs Bengal Warriors **(8 pm)**, Tamil Thalaivas vs Bengaluru Bulls **(9 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

CRICKET ASIA CUP

Handshake-Gate: Not a pretty sight, but don't blame players

It's evident the decision wasn't taken by the Indian cricketers

R KAUSHIK
DUBAI

As a contest, India's comprehensive dismissal of Pakistan on Sunday night had little to offer, but there were numerous talking points, not least the shake of hands that wasn't, either before the start of the game or at its conclusion.

Conventionally, captains of opposing teams shake hands and exchange team sheets before the toss. Once the dust has settled, players line up to congratulate and wish each other well, a mark of respect for the effort on the park, no matter the outcome. It's been the practice since time immemorial, one of the many unwritten codes which cricket, and numerous other disciplines, swear by.

From time to time, such niceties are shelled. Elina Svitolina, the Ukraine tennis player, has refrained from shaking hands with Russian and Belarussian players from the time Russia attacked her homeland in February 2022. In 1991, after losing the Eastern Conference finals 0-4 to Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls, the Detroit Pistons pointedly refused to shake hands, perhaps one reason why no Pistons stars, including legendary point guard Isiah Thomas, figured in the Dream Team that represented the USA in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

New Zealand's cricketers refused to come out of their dressing-room to greet their English rivals after a One-Day International at the Oval in June 2008, incensed that the hosts ran Grant Elliott out when he was sprawled in the middle of the pitch after a collision with bowler Ryan Sidebottom. Sri Lanka did likewise against Bangladesh in the 2023 World Cup league clash in Delhi after the latter won an appeal for 'timed out' against former skipper Angelo Mathews.

Pakistan's players at the end of their Asia Cup match against India in Dubai on Sunday. AFP

Both these cricketing instances stemmed from on-field incidents where the two protagonists saw things differently. The origin of India's no-handshake policy lies in the terror attack on holidaying tourists in Pahalgam on April 22, a cowardly attack that claimed 26 lives.

Given how things have unfolded over the last five days here, it is evident that India's cricketers were clearly acting on instructions from higher up – whether that is from the team management, the Board of Control for Cricket in India or from those occupying the corridors of political power is open to speculation. One isn't sure what the players' individual or collective stance is; even privately, they don't want to broach this subject for understandable reasons.

Suryakumar Yadav had attracted criticism for shaking hands with Asian Cricket Council chairman Mohsin Naqvi, also the chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board, and his Pakistani counterpart Salman Agha at the mandatory captains' press conference on Tuesday afternoon. A couple of days later, calls to boycott the T20 Asia Cup match gathered momentum in India. The BCCI and the Indian players were misplaced targets of ire when they were merely toeing the sports ministry policy which greenlit engaging with Pakistan in multi-team competitions.

Perhaps as a damage-control exercise, whoever was tasked with making the final call decided that Suryakumar would not shake hands with Agha at the toss, and that irrespective of the result, India's players would not greet or acknowledge the Pakistanis once the final ball was bowled.

The feeling of unease at a cricket match ending in such sterilised, rehearsed fashion did leave a not-so-pleasant taste in the mouth but it must not be forgotten that in the final analysis, the cricketers themselves were mere pawns doing the bidding of more influential forces.

Pakistan's official protest at India's lack of sportsmanship is primarily for optics. But it's never a great sign when any match is remembered and dissected for things beyond the quality of cricket.

DHONI AND THE ARMED FORCES

■ In March 2019, the Indian cricket team wore camouflage caps before the third ODI against Australia in Ranchi as a mark of tribute to the CRPF personnel who lost their lives in the Pulwama terror attack. The players also donated their match fees from that game to the National Defence Fund to support the families of the martyrs.

■ During the 2019 Cricket World Cup, MS Dhoni had a military insignia, known as the "Balidaan Badge," on his wicket-keeping gloves but the International Cricket Council (ICC) requested to remove. This was due to ICC regulations which prohibit displaying any personal messages or logos on clothing or equipment unless approved in advance.

CRICKET DULEEP TROPHY

CZ complete formalities with a slight hiccup

Patidar's men win the title for the first time in 11 years beating South Zone

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

Central Zone joyfully accepted a chaotic 30-minute South Zone collapse late on the fourth day and then charged to their first Duleep Trophy title in 11 years and seventh overall at BCCI's Centre of Excellence here.

Central had full of the final day to do the needful but needed just 94 minutes after a few hiccups, as a battling South Zone surrendered to a six-wicket defeat, a more acceptable margin, that seemed improbable for much of the final.

Having started the fifth day needing 65 runs to win, it seemed like a straightforward victory but hardly looked that way as the hosts were resolute enough to make the small chase competitive.

The last rites of the final turned into a mini tussle, as Gurjapneet Singh (2/21) and Ankit Sharma (2/22) picked four wickets between them.

The openers Danish Malewar and Akshay Wadkar began the day watchfully, as Gurjapneet found some seam movement while Ankit extracted extra bounce and spin.

Balls outside the off stump were left alone, while some that were angled in from around the wicket were defended.

The frustration eventually got to the Central Zone batters, leading to the undoing of Malewar (5), who tried to push the ball into the gap, but found the edge into Mohammed Azharuddeen's gloves.

After Malewar's dismissal, Central continued showing some attacking intent but it came without great execution, leading to a few more wickets.

Consistent

Gurjapneet was rewarded for some consistent and courageous bowling, where he drew Shubham Sharma's edge on 8 off a ball that seamed away on a length.

The left-arm quick broke through again as Saransh Jain's promotion to No.4 failed and lasted just two balls. Skipper Rajat Patidar also walked back after top-edging Ankit on 13.

Having exposed the top order and opening the gates into the middle, South were unable to derive any further mistakes as Akshay Wadkar (19 not out) and Yash Rathod (13 not out) finally drove Central home in 20.3 overs.

The end came at 11:04 am and it was fittingly Rathod, the Player-of-the-match for his 194 in the first innings, who signed and sealed it with a drive to the boundary off Vasuki Koushik.

However, it was the spinners Kumar Kartikeya (8/163) and Saransh Jain (8/179), who laid the groundwork for the victory, all while unfurling their bag of tricks on a surface that appeared flat with something on offer for the spinners.

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH ZONE (I Innings) 149 all out
CENTRAL ZONE (I Innings) 511 all out
SOUTH ZONE (II Innings): 426 all out
CENTRAL ZONE (II Innings): Danish Malewar c Azharuddeen b Ankit 5 (12b), Akshay Wadkar (not out) 19 (52b, 3x4), Shubham Sharma c Azharuddeen b Gurjapneet 8 (14b, 2x4), Saransh Jain c Siddarth b Gurjapneet 4 (2b, 1x4), Rajat Patidar c Nidheesh b Ankit 13 (27b, 2x4), Yash Rathod (not out) 13 (16b, 1x4). Extras (LB-4) 4. **TOTAL (for 4 wkts, 20.3 overs) 66.**
Fall of wickets: 1-11 (Malewar), 2-20 (Shubham), 3-24 (Saransh), 4-49 (Patidar).
Bowling: Gurjapneet 6-2-21-2, Ankit 10-2-22-2, Koushik 4.3-0-19-0.
PoM: Yash Rathod.
PoS: Saransh Jain.

Central Zone celebrate after winning the Duleep Trophy title at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru on Monday. DH PHOTO/ PRASHANTH HG

UAE beat Oman as India qualify

ABU DHABI, PTI

Title favourites India qualified for the Super Four stage of the Asia Cup with a match in hand after the United Arab Emirates (UAE) overwhelmed Oman by 42 runs here on Monday.

With four points from two wins, India currently are sitting atop the Group A, and they play against Oman (zero point from two matches) on September 19. India are certain to finish on top-2 and qualify for the Super Four even if they lose against Oman, which is highly unlikely.

The win against Oman on Monday kept UAE's hopes of making the Super Four alive.

Skipper Muhammad Waseem and Alishan Sharafu struck quick-fire fifties before Junaid Siddique's (4/23) fine bowling display ensured UAE's comfortable win over Oman.

Pathum Nissanka

Brief scores: UAE: 172/5 in 20 overs (Alishan Sharafu 51, Muhammad Waseem 69; Jiten Ramanandi 2-24) bt Oman: 130 all out in 18.4 overs (Junaid Siddique 4-23, Haider Ali 2-22, Muhammad Jawadullah 2-18).
Result: UAE won by 42 runs.
PoM: Alishan Sharafu.

Lanka survive HK scare

Opener Pathum Nissanka struck 68 as Sri Lanka beat Hong Kong by four wickets in their Asia Cup match in Dubai on Monday.

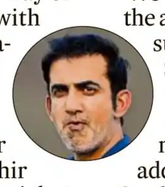
Nissanka faced 44 balls for his 68, which he struck with the help of six fours and two sixes, while Kusal Perera (20), Wanindu Hasaranga (20 not out) also chipped in as Sri Lanka chased down the target of 150 with seven balls to spare, reaching 153 for 6 in 18.5 overs.

Earlier, Hong Kong posted 149 for 4 after they were asked to bat first.

Brief scores: Hong Kong: 149/ 4 in 20 overs (Anshuman Rath 48, Nizakat Khan 52 n.o.; Dushmantha Chameera 2-29) lt to Sri Lanka: 153/6 in 18.5 overs (Pathum Nissanka 68; Yasim Murtaza 2-37). **Result:** SL won by 4 wkts. **PoM:** Pathum Nissanka.

'We wanted to show solidarity with Pahalgam victims'

DUBAI, PTI: India head coach Gautam Gambhir **(in pic)** termed the convincing win over Pakistan a "good one" but "more importantly", he felt it was the team's way of showing solidarity with the families of the Pahalgam terrorist attack victims.



Speaking to tournament broadcaster Sony Sports, Gambhir said there is lot of cricket left in the tournament following the seven-wicket drubbing of Pakistan on Sunday night.

"Good win, there's a lot of cricket left. More importantly, as a team we wanted to show our solidarity towards the victims, all the families and what they've gone through in the Pahalgam attack," said Gambhir.

"We also want to thank the armed forces for their success in Operation Sindoor. I am sure we will try and make the country proud and make them happy," he added.

On the match that turned out to be a no contest, Gambhir said he could not have asked for a better performance from his players.

"You couldn't ask for a better performance, especially the way the bowlers bowled. "

Paras takes 5 before hosts collapse

BENGALURU, DHNS

KSCA President XI's spinner Paras Arya spun a web around Goa batters with a spell of 5-47 that bundled out the Goans for 165 on Day 1 of the third round of Dr (Capt) K Thimmappiah memorial tournament here on Monday.

However, the left-arm off-break bowler's hard work was undone by a top-order collapse of the President XI, who ended the day on 58/5 and now trail by 107 runs. Sujay Sateri (6 not out) and Adhkosh Hegde (1 n.o.) were at the crease while Goa bowlers fired in unison to wipe out the top order.

Paras Arya. DH FILE PHOTO

Brief Scores: At Alur 3: Goa: 165 all out in 62.4 overs (Snehal Kauthankar 33, Lalit Yadav 41, Mohit Redkar 30 n.o., Dhanush Gowda 2-18, Shreesha S Achar 3-40, Paras Gurbax Arya 5-47) vs KSCA President's XI: 58/5 in 27 overs (Mohit Redkar 2-13)
At Alur 2: KSCA XI: 270 all out in 80.5 overs (Rohan Patil 53, Shrijith KL 36, Abhinav Manohar 68; Bikram Debnath 3-32, Sridam Paul 4-38) lead by 261 runs against Tripura: 9/0 in 2 overs
At SDNRW ground: KSCA Colts: 184 all out in 47.3 overs (Prakhar Chaturvedi 33, Karthikeya KP 30, Monish Reddy 59 n.o., Kumar LR 36; Rasikh Dar 4-35, Bhargav Bhatt 3-44, Mahesh Pithiya 2-45) vs Baroda: 129/6 in 40 overs (Vishnu Solanki 44 n.o., Shikhar Shetty 4-38)
At M Chinnaswamy Stadium: KSCA Secretary's XI: 267/9 in 90 overs (Lochan Gowda 48, Nikin Jose SJ 37, Dheeraj Gowda 45, Abhishek Ahlawat 49 n.o.; Tushar Deshpande 2-36, Sylvester Dsouza 3-51, Musheer Khan 2-27) vs Mumbai
At IAF: Assam: 153 all out in 50.5 overs (Denish Das 26, Akash Sengupta 47; Japagnya Bhatt 2-37, Hemang Patel 2-21, Drushant Soni 3-43, Amit Desai 2-21) lead by 50 runs against Gujarat 103/5 in 31 overs (Abhishek Desai 35, Manan Hingrajia 26, Akash Sengupta 2-28)
At KINI Sports: Maharashtra: 319/6 in 82 overs (Prithvi Shaw 40, Yash Kshirsagar 27, Digvijay Patil 106, Saurabh Nawale 56; Shanmesh Deshmukh 3-37, Gaurav Dhoble 2-75) vs Vidarbha.
At SJCE: Andhra: 87 all out in 23.2 overs (Divesh Sharma 4-24, Naveen Kanwar 4-18) vs Himachal Pradesh: 232/4 in 61 overs (Siddhant Purohit 50, Ekant Sen 76, Mridul Surroch 37; M Anjaneyulu 2-57)
At Alur 1: Madhya Pradesh: 269/7 in 89 overs (Harsh Gawli 50, Harshit Yadav 53, Harpreet Singh 33, Arshad Khan 54 n.o.; Ravi Kiran 2-53, Shashank Tiwari 2-61, Sahban Khan 2-47) vs Chhattisgarh.

Jomon Jacob (left) of Sporting Club Bengaluru attempts to head home the ball during their Super division league clash against HAL on Monday. DH PHOTO B K JANARDHAN

Roots score convincing win over MFAR SUFC

LOCAL FOOTBALL

BENGALURU, DHNS: Goals from Konthoujam Amarjit Singh, MD Nawaz Sharif and Mashup Bin Yakoob helped Roots FC script a convincing 3-0 victory over MFAR Students Union FC in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium on Monday.

Konthoujam broke the deadlock in the 16th minute to give his side a 1-0 lead. Nawaz then doubled it in the 33rd, before the game was put to bed in the 66th minute when Mashup scored Roots' third.

Meanwhile, Mrinal Muthunna and Muhummed Unais netted a goal each as Kodagu FC beat South United FC 2-0.

Results: Roots FC: 3 (Konthoujam Amarjit Singh 16th, MD Nawaz Sharif 33rd, Mashup Bin Yakoob 66th) bt MFAR Students Union FC: 0; Kodagu FC: 2 (Mrinal Muthunna 69th, Muhummed Unais 86th) bt South United FC: 0; Sporting Club Bengaluru: 2 (Ishaan Raghunandan 37th, Aadarsh Narayanapuram 45th) bt HAL FC: 0.

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